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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



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ELECTION 2010

THE RESULTS: ALL THE REACTION TO HOW **YOU** VOTED



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BEHIND EVERY GOOD MAN

Sittingbourne and Sheppey's newly-elected MP Gordon Henderson paid tribute to his wife Louise in his acceptance speech at the Swallows Leisure Centre in the early hours of May 7.
The new Member of Parliament won the super-marginal seat from Labour with a resounding majority of 12,838 votes.
Turn to pages 2 and 3 for full election coverage.

EXCLUSIVE

BY JILL HURST

A DEVASTATED mother has vowed to press charges against prison staff who deprived her son of asthma medication and basic medical help that could have saved his life.

After the inquest into the death of William Duke, Coroner Roger Sykes passed the file to the head of the Prison Service and the Director of Prosecutions and recommended criminal proceedings commence.

Katie Duke's son, known as Billy, from Sheerness, was on remand at HMP Elmley when the prison doctor prescribed an urgent Seretide inhaler on November 7, 2005. Tragically, nursing staff would never unpack the box of medication and Billy would never receive the drug.

The lifelong asthma sufferer fell ill at about 1am on November 8. He told prison staff he was suffering from shortness of breath, chest pain, that his inhaler wasn't working and that he needed medical attention.

However the 23-year-old was told he would have to wait until morning. As his condition deteriorated, Billy again asked for help, at 2.30am, only to be told nothing could be done for him.

It was not until after 6am that prison workers eventually intervened, but by this time the father-of-three was already dead.

Speaking exclusively to Yourswale, Mrs

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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your lifestyle

Heavy going for Downey Jr in Iron Man 2
Metallic Marvel superhero sequel is weighed down by too much expectation
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Jail asthma tragedy

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Duke said words could not describe how she felt.

"There is so much more they could have done for Billy but they simply left him to die. I don't feel angry, I just feel hollow. It's obvious to anyone when someone is having a severe asthma attack. Even a child could have picked up that Billy was in need of help. They just left a young man to die.

"I don't ever want another parent to go through what I've been through. The thought of Billy and what he must have gone through - it's just so cruel.

"The family are all absolutely devastated. I've changed as a person and the whole family is still beside themselves. We simply don't understand how people could stand by and watch him die."

That Billy died on the Isle of Sheppey is a bitter irony to Mrs Duke, who says the island was a source of great happiness to her son.

She said: "Sheppey was a good place for Billy. My parents had property in Queenborough and Minster and we used to go there on holiday, as a family, each year. Billy met his childhood sweetheart, Claire, there as a teenager and from that moment that's where he wanted to be.

"He was a very sick child. He had chronic asthma, which we taught him religiously to look after. He knew when an attack was coming on and he knew what to do.

"His father taught him breathing techniques and he knew when to ask for help. He absolutely would have known he was having a bad attack in the cell. He was an expert on asthma and would have been frightened."

Responsibility

Mrs Duke says she felt extremely let down during the inquest when prison staff, including the senior officer in charge, Robert Woolcott, took advantage of coroner's court rules and refused to confirm what they were doing in the seven hours leading up to Billy's death.

"I was gutted when they said 'no comment' to questions at the inquest. I wasn't ready for that and truly believed they would all give evidence and be honest.

"What really happened is they all hid behind each other. I say to them all, 'A young man died in your care and you should take responsibility.'

"I don't ever want another parent to have even a small taste of what I've been through. I won't stop until the individuals responsible are held to account.

"Billy was a good son. He was artistic, kind and clever. This is the least I can do for him."

Coroner Roger Sykes singled out senior prison officer Robert Woolcott, prison nurse Lumka Mathangana and prison guard James Powell for investigation.

Mrs Duke would like to thank charity INQUEST for its continued support in Billy's case.

For more information visit www.inquesthelp.org.uk

Extradition fight lost

FORMER Faversham firefighter Garry Mann has lost a last-minute appeal against his extradition to Portugal to serve a two-year sentence for football hooliganism.

Mann was convicted for his part in a riot in Albufeira during the Euro 2004 football tournament.

His appeal for bail until outstanding applications are heard at the European Court of Appeal, was rejected on April 27. He launched a last-ditch attempt at the High Court to halt the process, but judges ruled his application "arguable".

He is expected to be extradited in the next few days.

Council to halt automatic pay increases?

SWALE council has received its share of bad press in the past few years, but things are set to change, according to Abdool Kara.

As evidence of a new leaner council, bosses are already in talks with Unison about ending the cherished automatic annual pay increase enjoyed by many in the public sector.

But with the shadow of the protracted and expensive sacking of previous reforming CEO Mark Bilsborough hanging over him, the London high-flyer has his work cut out to fight the culture of slow-moving bureaucracy and the £5 million black hole in council finances.

Kara says the building blocks of a modern Swale are now in place: a revised financial plan, a restructured raft of directors and senior managers and a clear will to make it a high-performing authority. However, he admits the cultural shift has not been easy.

"It's right to suggest the authority was insular in their steer of the world, but in fact there are now areas where we can hold our heads high in Kent and indeed the country. Nationally, for example, we have one of the best recycling, and household waste services and a fantastic staying put service, and we've really turned our housing benefits system around.

Confidence

"Last time auditors gave us a zero performance rating for our housing services and rightly so. But we've worked hard on this and have just recently been audited again. We expect our new rating to reflect the work we've put in.

"So there is something about internal confidence and external reputation that I think is the type of cultural journey we are on.

"This isn't an authority where people are afraid to work hard, but we have to know what our priorities are and communicate them effectively.

"We want to send a strong signal, internally and externally, that we are putting performance first. This will mean we will reward good performance and work to tackle under-performance.

"While we are still negotiating with UNISON we hope to bring in a system to make sure people don't move up the incremental scale unless there is demonstrable evidence that they have increased in competence."

Mr Kara says the council has braced itself for public sector cuts, but hopes the new Government is formed as soon as possible to take away the vulnerability felt by local authorities.

"Most parties have promised to safeguard education and health and



HIGH-FLYER: Swale CEO Abdool Kara

this makes the local authority vulnerable."

He has already been approached by the new MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, Gordon Henderson, and welcomed his pledged to fight to bring more funding to the community.

Kara says they intend to continue maximising income from sources such as planning applications. He also recognises that the procurement system is a potential source of hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of savings and a vital life-line to small businesses.

"Some of the biggest savings you can make are in procurement contracts about being thoughtful and sensible.

"While we are limited by legislation, we want to make the procurement an even playing field for small organisations and third party agencies. Those larger organisations which are committed to using the smaller companies as sub-contractors will stand a better chance of winning tenders."

"We've set ourselves high targets on all performance indicators and while we may never hit one or two, for the vast majority we are working hard to be as good as anybody in England."

Kara says the next big challenge is to start bringing major regeneration schemes, including the Sittingbourne regeneration and Rushenden link, to fruition.

Asked about his overall experience, Kara says enthusiastically: "I can honestly say I am pleased with my decision to come to Swale. "There is a real will to change and be the best. I've had about four bad days since joining and I can't grumble about that."

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LONG NIGHT: The candidates line up to hear the result read out at 4.03am by returning officer, Swale Council chief executive Abdool Kara

Tories celebrate landslide victory

BY JILL HURST

ELECTION 2010

IN the end it wasn't a question of who would win the Sittingbourne and Sheppey Parliamentary seat, but rather by how much.

Conservative Gordon Henderson secured victory with the biggest swing in Kent.

Some had expected the super marginal seat to culminate in a nail-biting finish, as it did in 2005 when Henderson lost to Labour by just 79 votes.

On the night however, both the Liberal Democrat candidate Keith Nevols and the UKIP candidate Ian Davison were predicting a Henderson landslide even before the count had begun.

Swale council chief executive and returning officer, Abdool Kara confirmed they were right when he made the official announcement at 4.03am.

Gordon Henderson was duly elected the new MP with 24,313 votes (50 per cent), representing a 12,838 majority and a swing of 12.63 per cent.

The former Woolies employee replaces Labour's Derek Wyatt, who stepped down from frontline politics after holding the seat since 1997.

After thanking his campaign team and the voters in the district Mr

Henderson paid tribute to his wife Louise for supporting him in his decade-long ambition to be an MP.

He added: "I've always said I will put my community above party politics and it's a pledge I intend to keep."

Mr Henderson first ran for office in Luton in 2001 before moving onto his first stab at the Sittingbourne and Sheppey seat in 2005.

He ran his election campaign based on a vote for change manifesto in which he promised to fight for better health services in the district, more jobs, reduce anti-social behavior and promote the interests of small businesses.

Speaking to Yoursware the morning after the election Mr Henderson said he was approaching his win with a measure of sober pragmatism, adding: "Of course I'm over the moon, especially with the majority, but there is a job to be done. I already have a full in-tray and I intend to do what I said and put the community of Sittingbourne and Sheppey first."

"It's all systems go."

If Henderson's majority was surprising, so was the loss suffered by Labour's Angela Harrison. She managed to pull in just 11,930 votes (24.6 per cent) representing a loss of 17.2 per cent or 5,121 votes since 2005.

However, the Sheerness councillor remained stoic in defeat, saying: "I've only just started and Gordon's been



PRAGMATIC: New MP Gordon Henderson

at this for a long time. I intend to run for the next election."

Third place went to Liberal Democrat Keith Nevols, with 7,943 votes, followed by UKIP's Ian Davison with 2,610 votes and Veritas candidate David Cassidy with 158 votes.

Standing for the first time the BNP candidate Lawrence Tames took 1,305 votes and Monster Raving Loony's Mad Mike Young secured a respectable 319 votes – possibly equalling the number of bananas he gave out on election night.

The total number of votes cast was 48,578 (64.5) compared to 40,803 (53.7) in 2005.

Labour see support fall at borough level

IT was bad night all round for Swale Labour Party as the borough election saw their council seats dwindle from 11 to 10.

The downward trend was largely due to some shock gains by the Conservatives, including Murston, Roman and Sheerness East – long considered a Labour stronghold. Chris Foulds took the seat by a whisker, pulling in 687 votes compared to Labour's Mark Ellen at 686.

Jackie Constable managed to take one back for Labour, securing Halfway and Queenborough from the Tories.

The net outcome saw the council shift further to the right, with the Conservatives up to 33 seats, Labour down from 11 to 10, the Liberal Democrats down from four seats to three and one seat remaining independent.

As well as seeing Labour support drop dramatically in the general election, Angela Harrison took a battering in her ward election. Her majority hold on Sheerness West dropped from 34 per cent in 2005 to just over three per cent this time round.

Speaking to Yoursware on election night, Labour spokesman, Roger Truelove said: "Frankly, it's not about the candidates at grass roots but more about what's happening nationally. Even if Derek Wyatt had not stood down I don't believe the outcome would have been different, although the margins may

have been narrower. There isn't a strong history of Labour support in Kent."

FULL RESULTS:

Bryan Mulhern, Abbey (Faversham),

Conservative hold

Roger Truelove, Chalkwell (Sittingbourne),

Labour hold.

Gareth Randall, Grove (Sittingbourne),

Conservative hold.

Gerry Lewin, Hartlip, Newington, Upchurch

(Sittingbourne), Conservative hold

Brenda Simpson, Kensley (Sitt),

Conservative hold

Ken Pugh, Minster Cliffs (IOS),

Conservative hold

Ed Gent, Murston (Sittingbourne),

Conservative gain from Lib Dem

Jackie Constable, Queenborough &

Halfway (IOS), Lab gain from Con

Richard Darby, Queenborough & Halfway

(IOS), Conservative hold

Lloyd Bowen, Roman (Sittingbourne),

Conservative gain from Labour

Chris Foulds, Sheerness East (IOS),

Conservative gain from Labour

Angela Harrison, Sheerness West (IOS).

Labour hold

John Morris, Sheppey Central (IOS),

Conservative hold

Mike Cosgrove, St Ann's (Faversham),

Conservative hold

Trevor Fentiman, Teynham & Lynsted

(Sittingbourne), Conservative hold

Ted Wilcox, Watling (Faversham),

Conservative hold

Alan Willicombe, Woodstock

(Sittingbourne), Conservative hold

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THE ALSO-RANS: Angela Harrison (Labour), Ian Davison (UKIP) and Keith Nevols (Liberal Democrat)

How votes were cast

G. Henderson (Con)	24,313
Angela Harrison (Lab)	11,930
Keith Nevols (Lib Dem)	7,943
Ian Davison (UKIP)	2,610
Lawrence Tames (BNP)	1,305
Mike Young (MRLP)	319
David Cassidy (Veritas)	158
Lawrence Tames (BNP)	1,305
Turnout	48,578 64.5%

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'We just want to know he is safe and well'

■ BY JILL HURST

A FATHER from Sittingbourne says he is sick with worry following the disappearance of his 26-year-old son who vanished after setting off for a weekend away.

Jim Green, of Rock Road, made an emotional appeal for information in the ongoing search.

His son, Matthew Paul Green, left the family home some time before 6am on Friday, April 9 saying he was going to visit a friend in Mile End, London for the weekend.

Mr Green added: "I saw him on the Thursday evening but he was gone before 6am on the Friday because he had left the house before my wife, Pauline, went to work. He told us he would be back on Sunday night because he had work on Monday.

"But he never arrived at Mile End and his friend never saw him. He has just vanished and we have no idea where to.

"We are sick with worry. It's almost four weeks now and very out of character. There was no argument, no disagreement and nothing untoward and he was fit and well. We just don't understand it."

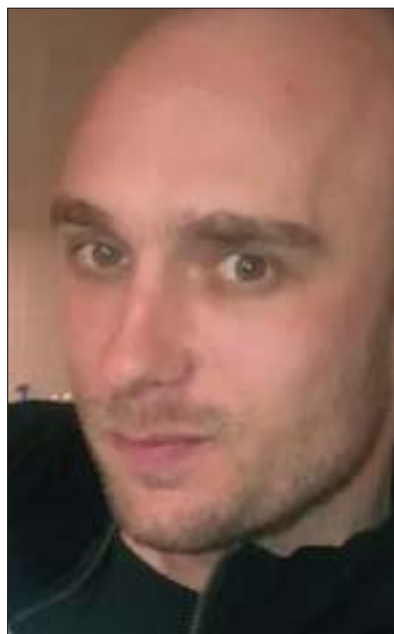
Mr Green said although Matthew had left his mobile phone in his bedroom he did take a quantity of cash together with his driving licence and passport.

"The police took his computer away and we are told he had been searching overseas destinations before he left but we don't have any other details.

"We know police have checked the hospitals but didn't find him and they we know he hasn't been arrested or involved in any altercations.

"We are just waiting to find out if he has left the country and travelled using his passport and the police have put out his photograph and details.

"All we want to say to him is please get in touch. If not with us then with a friend or



VANISHED: Matthew went missing on his way to Mile End

someone else. A facebook campaign has been set up for him and it now has over 2000 members. We all just want to know he is safe and well.

"We keep asking the question of what happened to him but we don't have an answer. We don't know where to turn and we are all worried sick."

Police have launched a missing persons appeal for Matthew who is described as white, having a shaved head, brown eyes, of slim build and with two tattoos on his upper arm.

Anyone with information should contact the police on 01622 604167 or Missing People on 0500 700 700.

yourswale

NEWS IN BRIEF

Book now for steam trip

VISITORS to the annual classic car and motorcycle show in Faversham on May 16, still have time to book a place on the Spitfire steam train round-trip from Faversham town centre to Sheerness.

The steam train, which usually only makes an appearance for the Hop Festival, will ferry passengers from Faversham to Gillingham, where a diesel locomotive will haul the train to Sheerness-on-Sea before the steam takes charge for the journey back.

The train, organised by brewer Shepherd Neame, is made up of historic carriages from the 1950s and 1960s and has a real ale bar.

Hundreds of historic cars and motorcycles will line the streets, on the day, in a colourful and vibrant exhibition.

Fares for the afternoon return trip cost between £16 and £24, with concessions for children. Call 01795 542285 or book online at www.shepherdneame.co.uk.

Town through your eyes

ORGANISERS of a community photographic project in Faversham are appealing for townspeople to share their snaps.

A year in the life of Faversham will explore the history of the town through the eyes of the community. Organised by Kent Creative Arts, an exhibition is planned at this year's hop festival. Submitted photos will be scanned and returned to the owners.

For more information or to get involved, contact Nathalie on 01795 538022 or visit www.ayearinthelifeoffaversham.co.uk. You can also visit the Creative Creek art studio in Abbey Street.

Pensioner's rail campaign

THE new PM had better watch out because retired builder Harry Farrow will be on his doorstep in less than four months.

Mr Farrow was in Sittingbourne with his campaign for free rail travel for the over 60s this week. He plans to visit 10 Downing Street in September with a petition of 10,000 signatures and the backing of every Kent council.

The MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, Gordon Henderson has backed the campaign from the start and has promised to raise the issue in Parliament.

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Bishop welcomed by community

THE Bishop of Dover, The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott, stopped off for a pint during a busy whistle stop tour of Swale.

Bishop Trevor spent a day meeting people in Faversham and children attending Teynham Church of England Primary School. He also visited Gaskain's fruit farm in Teynham and Davington Church.

He was treated to a pint of Bishop's Finger at the Shepherd Neame brewery in Faversham.

The day started with Bishop Trevor leading assembly at the Teynham primary school. Head teacher Elizabeth Pearson, and Revd Steve Lillcrap, Vicar of Teynham St Mary, took the Bishop on a tour of the school.

After leaving the school, Bishop Trevor joined local clergy and church volunteers for midday prayer at Davington Church.

Bishop Trevor said: "I enjoyed a delight-



ful day and received such a generous and warm welcome. As a Bishop I am called to know and be known by God's people - I hope today is just the start of that process."

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Transplant athlete serves up bronze

A SHEERNESS man on the brink of death has gone on to win bronze in the men's badminton singles at the annual transplant sports UK tournament.

Paul German survived after he received a life-saving kidney transplant and he has since gone from strength to strength.

Mr German said not a day goes by without him thinking of his donor. He added: "I never believed I would ever have the energy to walk, let alone play badminton. Winning bronze has really been a bonus. Not a day passes without remembering that I am alive due to an unknown person's selfless generosity."

To register, and for more information please go to www.organdonation.nhs.uk or contact the Organ Donor Line on 0300 123 23 23.

Dove Inn is award winning Kent pub

THE Dove Inn, Dargate, has been named pub restaurant of the year in a Kent brewery's annual awards.

The quaint Victorian pub, in Plum Pudding Lane, has already gained a reputation for excellence and features in the Good Food Guide.

Licencees Philip MacGregor and Sarah Shawcross said, after receiving the award at an awards ceremony hosted by Shepherd Neame at the Brewers' Hall, London: "This is our first pub and we're so pleased to have won this award on behalf of our brilliant staff and customers. It's been a long, hard road but this recognition makes it all worthwhile."

Paedo 'name and shame' site raises concerns

A FACEBOOK vigilante has named and shamed almost 200 convicted sex offenders and paedophiles – with mug shots to match.

Chris Wittwer, 34, spent two years researching and compiling information for each county and has now exposed some 6,000 sex attackers on the social networking site, used by around 23 million people in the UK and 400 million globally.

His group 'UK Paedophiles Named and Shamed' lists 196 offenders for the Kent area with pictures, crimes and where they lived at the time of their offences.

Around 5,000 people in the county have become members of the group, hailing Mr Wittwer a "hero" for his work.

Despite concerns by police about the site, the warehouse worker, from Exeter, said he is simply providing information already in the public domain.

He insists he only puts details of convicted sex offenders on the site, using court records and police press releases.

And despite being shut down when he first

■ BY MARIJKE COX

started the group, he was given permission to start up again after proving he was breaking no laws by showing information already available to the public.

He said: "On the site we aim to expose the paedophiles, perverts and child abuse animals that infest our society today."

"This group is dedicated to all those that have suffered because of this disgusting crime."

Mr Wittwer has received praise from thousands of Facebook members, who claim he is providing a public service.

But Kent Police is treating the site with caution.

A spokeswoman said: "Any information taken from the internet and sites such as Facebook should be treated in this way as its authenticity cannot be confirmed."

"Part of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) includes assessing risk to members of the public and where they should be told about offenders in their community, we tell them."



HERO: Members of Chris Wittwer's group naming paedophiles are campaigning to keep the page on Facebook

"We encourage anyone with concerns about offenders to report the information to the police or through Crimestoppers."

"By providing the police and our partners with information, members of the public can help to protect themselves and others."

She added: "We have invested significant resources to manage and monitor sexual offenders in the community."

A spokeswoman from Facebook said the networking site should be a place for people to openly discuss and express their views.

"It is within the terms of the site for users to express their views about a public figure, which includes views about someone who has been convicted of a crime and details related to the crime that are freely available in the media," she said.

"However, bullying and harassment of a private individual is against the terms of use of the site. As a community, Facebook is highly self-regulating, and we encourage users to report questionable or offensive content."

Last week, this newspaper revealed how 14 convicted sex offenders had gone "missing" off the police radar in Kent.



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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

NEIL GOLDING



Q Tell us a little about yourself?

A I am one of two deputy head teachers at Westlands School, Sittingbourne, with specific responsibility for school improvement and specialist school status. I have been here since 2004. In my spare time I coach rugby with Sheppey under 15s and east Kent under 15s, where I am chairman of the club.

Q Why teaching?

A I decided to go into teaching when I was about 13 or 14. Having finished at school I went to university to train to be a PE teacher. I taught at the former Sheppey School before getting a head of PE post in Maidstone. I then re-trained in special needs and joined Minster College in 1994. After eight years, I became assistant head at St George's Middle School before joining Westlands.

Q What's the best bit about your job?

A I like the day-to-day contact with young people and sharing in their successes as they develop. It's good to be in a position to inspire them. I also like the strategic planning aspects of my role.

Q And the most challenging?

A The most challenging would be dealing with pupils who are disruptive and the parents who do not support the school.

Q Tell us a bit about Westlands.

A Westlands is a very large and busy school. Pupils and staff are given lots of opportunities to succeed in whatever they are good at. Despite its size, Westlands is a caring school with excellent pastoral support.

Q Not every child is academically gifted. What's your advice?

A My advice would be don't give up. Everyone has something they are good at and it is our role to ensure the children believe in themselves to become active and well-rounded members of the community.

Q Any advice for people considering a career as a teacher?

A Teaching is a demanding job. You have to like young people and work hard. You have to love your subject areas and be able to inspire. Also, the holidays are good.

Q What part do schools play in nurturing an interest in sport in young people?

A Schools should take a lead role in promoting sport. However it is important that schools work closely with the community to ensure the links are effective.

I have found in rugby, for instance, that schools can stir an interest but do not necessarily have the facilities to really develop it. But by liaison with local clubs young people can be encouraged to attend, introduced and made to feel comfortable. At my club we have

recruited several players through school recommendations and festivals, and they have used the club to really develop their interest and skills.

Q What are the benefits?

A By participating in sport, young people learn to look after themselves and lead more positive and purposeful lives. I have seen many people who have had to learn to act as part of a team and this has rubbed off on their school or professional lives. I also think sport is important from a participation perspective and competition is good preparation for life.

Q What sporting activities are you currently involved in?

A I have found that sports can open doors in life and certainly through rugby, it comes with a unique companionship that is global.

My days of playing are now behind me, yet sport always provides a new challenge. Nowadays my focus is on using my experience to benefit others by coaching and through administration of sports, so that others can take from sport what I have gained.

I have also signed up for the three peaks challenge. In June half-term, a team of us are attempting to climb Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in just 24 hours.

We are looking to raise £10,000 for Teenage Cancer Care and Demelza House, so any help would be much appreciated. If anyone wants to support us please contact me at the school.

Q & A

The assistant head teacher at The Westlands School in Sittingbourne talks to **Jill Hurst** about his love of teaching and how he believes sport plays a vital role in the development of young people.



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MUCH TO DO: Team try out golfing for the manual

Island youngsters' must-have guide to beating boredom

FED up of hearing young people say they are bored and have nothing to do?

Well fear not because 30 Island youngsters have produced a young person's guide to the island.

The must-have manual, due out in June, will list every activity, event and service on offer to the under 21s.

The determined lot have talked to, visited and taken part in just about every activity thinkable including horse riding, skate parks, health clinics, drop-in centres and youth clubs – all of which will be included in the directory.

Fourteen-year-old writer Sarah said compiling the guide was exciting and compelling. She added: "I have always wanted to go horse riding, now I have. It was fun finding out how much stuff there was to do on the island – I won't be bored anymore"

The directory is being produced by Sheppey Matters, a regeneration charity working on the Isle of Sheppey.

The guide will be available from Sheppey Healthy Living Centre, Swale CVS, local libraries and community centres. For more information contact Sheppey Matters on 01795 583547 or go to www.sheppeyhlc.org.

The true cost to Swale of swine flu pandemic

■ BY MARIJKE COX

THE health trust covering Swale has spent a massive £1.1 million tackling the swine flu pandemic – despite others spending as little as £11,100.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent ran up the bill paying for resources such as staff, storage of vaccines, and drug collection points, after the threat of a pandemic swept the nation last year.

Funding for vaccines and antivirals came from central government.

In 2009-10, contingency plans in the budget meant money was available to pay for the costs that year.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's acting chief executive David Meikle said: "Each year the PCT sets aside money in its budget for contingencies such as the swine flu pandemic."

"This represents good financial management."

"Due to these plans, money was available in 2009-10 to pay for swine flu costs in that year."

Andrew Scott-Clark, deputy director for pub-

lic health, added that the trust is the sixth largest in England with a widely dispersed population of 732,000.

"It was the lead primary care trust managing the pandemic for the whole of Kent ensuring a co-ordinated response across the county," he said.

On average, PCTs spent £340,000 tackling the swine flu problem.

The cost was revealed by industry publication GP magazine, which requested spending figures for all 152 PCTs, under the Freedom of Information Act. Of the 107 that responded, NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent topped the list with the highest expenditure.

Milton Keynes NHS spent just £11,100.

Although the Department of Health funded antivirals and vaccines, trusts were expected to pay for any other expenses.

This included storage and distribution of vaccines, equipment, antiviral collection points, staff costs and training.



AFTER EFFECTS: Health Trust managers needed to cough up £1.1 million dealing with the swine flu crisis

Publicity and communication was also paid for by the trusts, with the majority using their own contingency funds.

The handling of the situation by government has been criticised by the British Medical Association (BMA), which believes the Department of Health should be responsible for the financial burden.

Dr Richard Vautrey, deputy chairman of the BMA's GPs Committee, said: "A pandemic should be seen as an exceptional circumstance and a primary care trust should be fully supported by central government."

"The whole nature of a national health service is that one area should be able to support another, and the unusual financial burden of this episode should be borne centrally."

A spokeswoman from the Department of Health said counter-measures, including antivirals and vaccines, were fully funded by central government.

She added: "A consistent approach was applied to all PCTs in that any further local spending had to be met from existing budgets."

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Liberation heroes join party

■ BY NICK AMES

THE 65th anniversary of the liberation of Holland saw 380 veterans – who fought from the Normandy beaches on D-Day into the Low Countries and beyond – attend commemorations on May 5.

Coaches left the Port of Dover last week heading for the lands they freed from the Nazis at the end of World War Two.

Events in Holland were coordinated by the Normandy Veterans' Association and Norfolkline ferries supplied free transport for five coaches of veterans on its Dover-Dunkirk route.

Peter Hodge, who raises funds for veterans, said they had all been welcomed.

He said: "It's bought back memories and we've been treated extremely well. The Dutch really appreciate what the Allied soldiers did for them. It's very emotional for everyone."

"In one village there was dancing in the streets and veterans received medals. We were also able to say thank you to the Dutch resistance who helped so many British and other Allied troops and airmen. We were able to show it was a combined effort to liberate Holland."

"It's also great to see how the Dutch have recovered from the war. Places bombed and battered now have real style. It's fantastic."

Holland was liberated by Canadian troops, with the assistance of the British and American armies and the French also playing a part.

On May 5, 1945, Canadian General Charles Foulkes and German Commander-in-Chief Johannes Blaskowitz reached an agreement on the capitulation of Nazi forces in the Netherlands, at the Hotel De Wereld, Wageningen.

This followed a failed Allied attempt to end the war quickly through Operation Market Garden, which saw airborne troops dropped near bridges over the Rhine, including at Arnhem – the famous A Bridge Too Far.

But British veterans who did help liberate the Dutch were applauded for their heroism at last week's events, including a service in the village of Zutphen.

They were joined by Canadian and Belgian veterans of the conflict.

At the service was a group of Dutch resistance people who had risked their lives by sheltering downed Allied airmen and troops.



WE'LL BE BACK: British Paras, above, in Arnhem during the failed attempt to capture bridges over the Rhine after the Allied airborne assault of Operation Market Garden, right, in September, 1944. Dutch liberation would have to wait until May 5, 1945

After the liberation in 1945, Liberation Day was commemorated every five years. Finally, in 1990, the day was declared to be a national holiday when the liberation would be commemorated and celebrated every year.

On May 4 each year, the Dutch hold a Remembrance of the Dead for those who fought and died during the 1939-45 conflict and wars in general.

There is a remembrance gathering in the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam and at the national monument on Dam Square in Amsterdam. Throughout the country, two minutes of silence are observed at 8pm.



Jailed backpacker halts appeal

A BACKPACKER tortured and locked up for six years in an Indian jail has given up his fight for innocence and begged to come home.

Patrick Malluzzo, 32, from Dartford, has applied for a transfer to a British prison, even though it means dropping an appeal against his conviction in the Indian Supreme Court.



Malluzzo (above), who was arrested in 2004 for possession of cannabis, said his fight had "reached the end of the road".

"I have been fighting for justice for six years, which has taken a serious toll," he said. "I want to return to the UK so I can be close to my family."

Malluzzo was arrested while backpacking when a bag containing 19kg of cannabis – worth £2,000 in India – was found under train seats booked

in his name and that of his co-accused 'J'. He had not used the seat after a change in plans, but his bag and personal belongings were found with the drugs.

He claimed he had asked J – another British backpacker – to take them so he could travel light, arranging to meet later in Goa.

The pair met and J said he had got off the train to buy food and it had left the station with the belongings.

Malluzzo said he had thought nothing of it and booked flights to Thailand, but was arrested at Mumbai airport and charged with possession of cannabis.

Malluzzo was jailed and forced to wait two years for a trial, during which he claimed to be tortured. He signed a confession and was sentenced to 10 years in Kota jail.

His co-accused J was acquitted. An appeal in the Rajasthan High Court this year also proved unsuccessful.

RSPB's 'Futurescape' plan for estuary

WILDLIFE in the Thames Estuary should be better protected against potentially harmful developments like Boris Island, says the RSPB.

The charity believes conservation should be about the entire landscape, putting the environment at the heart of every planning issue.

It has identified the estuary as the first of several planned 'Futurescape' regions, which would involve teaming up with other conservation groups, businesses, local authorities and communities.

Such a partnership could spell the end for controversial proposals such as London Mayor Boris Johnson's idea for an airport off the Kent coast.

Andre Farrar, of the RSPB, said: "Those behind plans like this are harking back to older ways of thinking that really don't deliver and would be hugely damaging. We have a responsibility to ensure we put the

future of these places at the heart of decision-making."

The RSPB owns or manages 40 sq km of land for wildlife on the Thames and has spent more than £50 million regenerating land in the region. The estuary is listed as the UK's fifth most important site for water birds.

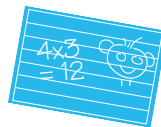
In 2002 the charity joined other campaigners in defeating the Government's plans for an airport at Cliffe, near Rochester, and is working with developers to ensure the Thames Gateway project benefits wildlife as well as residents.

The RSPB is also campaigning against the Lydd airport expansion plan. Mr Farrar said: "As a nation we need to look hard at how we can improve the situation. Futurescapes are about working with local authorities to ensure conservation is not an afterthought."



FEATHERED FRIENDS: Avocet are just some of the visitors to the Thames estuary

Picture CHRIS COMERSAL



BREAK TIME



Pupils learn about benefits of skipping

YOUNGSTERS at a Faversham school jumped at the chance to exercise with skipping ropes.

Pupils at Lorenden Preparatory School sprang into action when sports coach and former primary school teacher John Burn visited them to teach a variety of skipping techniques.

Head of sport at the school Matt Harper said: "The long rope team games and double Dutch skipping went down well. We were keen to get the boys and girls equally involved. It's something I hope they will continue to play during breaks now."

Jasmine St Clair-Baker, 11, said: "I never knew there were so many ways to skip," while 10-year-old James Guthrie added: "I thought skipping was for girls but I found it great fun but it was quite difficult. I think I will carry on skipping."

Mr Burn said: "Skipping benefits general fitness, weight loss, co-ordination, balance and speed. Team games and partner skips help improve children's co-operation and communication skills, right through to increased self-esteem and space awareness. Skipping really is a great all-round exercise."

Kick-start a passion for football at girls' fun day

■ BY JILL HURST

GIRLS from Swale are being encouraged to kick off their world cup season at a football open day in Sittingbourne

The event, due to take place at Sittingbourne Community College (SCC) on Saturday, May 22, is aimed at girls aged between seven and 16.

It is hoped it will attract at least 50 youngsters keen to get involved in the sport, with existing players from local teams attending to assist and join in the fun training sessions.

Backed by Swale council, SCC and the Kent County Football Association, the collective bodies hope the fun day will inspire the girls to a long-term passion.

Secretary of the Kent Girls and Ladies Football Club (KGLFL) Doug Emmett said: "We don't want girls to miss out on a great free day trying out football. Girls of all abilities are welcome to come along to join the fastest-growing girls sport in the country."

"The event is an innovative idea to introduce team sports to girls through fun football activities led by FA-qualified coaches."

"In a World Cup year, what better time to re-energise girls' football, which is going through a renaissance?"

According to Mr Emmett the KGLFL has introduced new formats to attract girls to the game and keep them and their parents interested for the coming season.

He added: "There will be a new six-a-side



TEAM WORK: Girls enjoy a training session at Sittingbourne Community College with FA coach Kay Cossington

and nine-a-side competition for under-10s and under-12s. A new under-nines league and under-18s ladies division will also be created.

"And with new ideas like an autumn and spring football season to avoid winter conditions plus geographically-based leagues, I believe the future of girls' football in Swale looks bright."

"Football remains the largest girl's team sport in the country and our aim is to share

this great news with all girls in Swale, giving them an opportunity to get involved.

The event will take place from 10.30am to 2pm on Saturday, May 22. Football coaches will be available on the day to offer advice and information to children and parents.

For more information please call Doug Emmett on 07734 201098, email him at doug.emmett@yahoo.co.uk, or contact Liz Symons at liz.symons@kcfa.

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YOUR LETTERS

Wake up before there's nothing left

Very soon this country will not be ours.

The politicians are giving everything away to the EU and are destroying our national identity by mass immigration.

Our industries – cars, steel, coal, ship-building, fishing, textiles, aviation...

Everything that provided millions of jobs and apprenticeships has been decimated or shipped abroad and thrown many on the scrapheap – yet thousands of immigrants are pouring into this country every week. Why?

Where are the jobs for your children, let alone your grandchildren, coming from as they compete against cheap labour and our industries sold abroad?

It isn't extreme to give our country and industries away, only extreme when the British National Party opposes it.

A vote for the Liberal Democrats, Labour or the Conservatives was a vote for the real extremists – they are traitors to this country.

Our utilities and big-name firms have been sold off to foreign companies and now more than half of Britain is owned by overseas investors.

When are you going to wake up and realise that the old gang have been giving away all that Britain has fought and died for when there's nothing left?

In 1992, Jack Straw said: "The English as a race are not worth saving."

If people don't wake up very soon, I will begin to believe him.

Harry Williams, Comment posted on www.yourcanterbury.co.uk



Why can't they just leave God out of it?

Like many men of the cloth, the Bishop of Dover, the Rt Rev Trevor Willmott, appears to be a man of much wisdom and makes good sense until, alas, he inevitably brings God into it (last week's blog). What a pity!

Obviously I, like many others, don't think that God made me, whether unique or otherwise, and the Bishop's assertion to the contrary makes me question the value of his other remarks, however ostensibly sensible they seem.

I have noticed that clerics often tend to bring God and religion into everything. I wish they wouldn't.

Ian Macmillan, by email

yourblogger

Gary Wright says MPs would rather have a hung parliament than let us decide their fate again soon



THE forecasters got it wrong, but the exit poll was spot on in predicting the un-decideds didn't have the bottle to vote Lib-Dem and most of the 'newly engaged' first-time voters couldn't actually be bothered to vote at all.

As I write the Lib Dem party is in its fourth day of negotiations with the Tories to form a majority government. Despite their inherent differences, it seems likely the two will find a way to work together.

Cameron's Tories can taste power and will do whatever they need to secure Clegg's support.

And by representing more than 60 per cent of the electorate, it's not a bad thing. Probably.

Electoral reform actually seems quite a good idea although you could argue no one actually voted for it. When the election was announced I celebrated the fact that for four weeks our voices would be heard.

As I said then, French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau summed up our system 250 years ago when he wrote the English are mistaken in thinking they are free: "It is free only during the election of members of parliament; as soon as the members are elected, the people is enslaved."

Now we are sidelined, though I rather admired the 1,000 or so protestors for PR who turned up outside Lib-Dem HQ on Saturday. It's too late though, MPs are elected – now they'll do as they like.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, Gareth Arnold, on 01303 817025 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Swale blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yoursware.co.uk.

Put your faith in the Bible not politicians

Is it any wonder at the great falling away from Christianity when bishops like Bishop Willmott put their faith in politicians, the UN and other failed organisations of mankind, rather than Jesus Christ!

If he bothered to read his Bible, rather than subscribe to his church's fairy stories and the belief the world is doomed to suffer into perpetuity, he would know all that we see has already been prophesied.

Indeed, in Matthew 24, where Christ's disciples asked for the signs of his return, Christ provides a very comprehensive list of conditions as they are today!

If Bishop Willmott wants to continue claiming he's doing Christ's work, then he should be looking to Christ as his saviour and following his teachings, not looking to the world's corrupt and failed political systems and their teachings.

Phil Granger, by email

There's no one to vote for in The Big Society

I'm definitely not with the Bishop.

One big regret that could have helped millions of us – why did all of us not get solar power (hot water for every household) as a Millennium gift and celebration? Why don't the polluters pay, why do

the greatest benefit cheats in Government circles cite immunity from prosecution?

Why are databases and intrusion into our private lives being rolled out?

Feels like collective punishment is going to get worse in England, no matter who gets 'elected'.

Phoney Blair's heir, Dave Cameron, reminds me of a snake-oil salesman.

The damage done to my local area by socially divisive, culturally destructive, sanctimonious and smug Tories (no better than their New Labour counterparts) is distressing.

As a veteran US investor has just said, the euro is unlikely to survive long-term.

Despite the claptrap we were fed to get us into the EU, thankfully we have not been entirely sucked into the Euro-mess.

I am thankful to Ian Taylor, of NO2ID. His views are spot on – sham democracy through more crazy policies like the Big Society is not required. As floating voters and non-voters have declared, we need to get rid of the rotten system and the rotters running it.

Otherwise, what are we voting for? More of the same, from what I can read between the platitudes and false assurances.

We need protection, stability and full employment, but no party will curb, restrain or hard-prune the overgrowth and financial damage of rampant bureaucracy.

The poor are forced to pay for the rich in England's thieftoms.

Cameron must come up with a deal or a lot of his party members are going to be very upset and he'll face the boot as leader.

Brown's offer to Clegg on Friday may have sounded a bit desperate. That's because it was, but unfortunately he has nothing to offer Clegg and his band of 50.

Britain is in deep financial trouble, whoever runs the country will be forced by the IMF and Europe to do the right thing, even if it does mean sacking hundreds of thousands of NHS and public sector staff.

For Labour losing will be the best thing that happened to them. Did they really want to implement cuts that would have ensured they'd be out of power for a another generation?

For Cameron almost winning is probably good enough. With the Lib Dems on board he has someone to blame when the electorate gets upset. He can also build his image as a statesman and win over those in his party who think his election campaign was a bit rubbish really. Next time he could secure a majority. And for the Lib Dems, they'll have a taste of power at the top table. I reckon they'll be a few defectors over the next couple of years who'll like life as a Tory and will be tempted by the trappings of office.

As I've said though now we must watch from the sidelines, the MPs are back in charge and they will decide both their own destiny... and eventually, ours.

Don't believe talk of another election soon – they'd rather have a hung parliament with compromises than face giving us have our say again too soon.

Who is there to redress the balance and give us a chance? Not those who take bonuses for turning up on time and meeting antisocial, inhumane and senseless targets and socially useless policies.

The Big Society is already alive and kicking – Cameron will tweak it but wants to shift responsibility rather than cure the disease.

Rita Grootendorst, by email

Let your vote be seen with green

As someone once said if you want nobody to run your life... Vote for nobody.

I sympathise with the view of not voting and the idea of a 'None of the Above' box but in the current circumstances with the far-right on the rise it is important to keep them well out. I hope wherever the far-right and Greens for example both stood people who oppose the main parties voted Green at least.

Ray Duff, by email

Run marathon for four legged friends

Feeling inspired to run in next year's Virgin London Marathon? Then apply for a place on Tuesday, May 4, but hurry, as they go extremely quickly!

If you're lucky enough to get a place, why not run for PDSA, the UK's leading veterinary charity?

Joining our running team means

you'll receive training tips, a vest and somewhere to relax after the race, and you will be helping us to raise vital funds for sick and injured pets.

PDSA also has a limited amount of guaranteed marathon places. To find out how to apply, please email me at marathon@pdsa.org.uk or call 0800 917 2509.

Brenda Smith, by email

The real cost for cancer patients

Money worries should be the last thing on your mind following a cancer diagnosis, but in fact patients tell Macmillan Cancer Support that they're second only to pain in causing them stress and anxiety.

Macmillan knows that unfortunately the bills don't stop just because you are ill and so provides benefits-advisers in local communities and calls for a better financial deal for people affected by cancer.

But sometimes more immediate relief is called for and that's why the charity gave out more than £203,989 to 632 people in Kent last year, specifically to help those who were struggling to pay their bills after a cancer diagnosis.

Our grants can make a real difference to someone with cancer in desperate need, but they cannot be a permanent solution.

That's where our local Macmillan benefits-advisers and phone-line can help. Cancer can have a devastating effect on people's finances, especially if they have to give up work.

There is money in the Government pot, but people don't always know it's available or are reluctant to claim.

Often people are too ill to fill out the long and complicated claim forms.

In 2009, Macmillan gave out almost £9 million in grants to more than 27,000 people nationally.

This means that every week, more than 400 people receive a grant from Macmillan.

Most people who claim for grants need money for fuel bills, followed closely by a need for new clothes.

Help with the cost of getting to hospital and parking is the third biggest issue, but the charity also gives money for household items, such as washing machines, to make life easier as well as items that help individuals continue with activities they enjoy.

For example, a grant was recently given to a man with cancer of the larynx to help pay for a special swimming device, so that he could still enjoy swimming after his operation. Sadly, help was also required for ten children who were less than a year old.

If you or a family member have been diagnosed with cancer and you're struggling financially, you can phone Macmillan free on 0808 808 00 00 or visit macmillan.org.uk for information and support and to find out what help is available.

Richard Shaw, Macmillan

TOO FULL?
Rochester
Prison is
one of
many in
the county



Overcrowded jails in 'crisis'

A PENAL reform charity has criticised the justice system after figures revealed prisons are overcrowded by more than 100 per cent.

HMP Canterbury, which contains only foreign prisoners, was listed at number nine in the top 20 most overpopulated prisons in England and Wales. The report, by the Howard League for Penal Reform, showed the jail was certified for use for 195 prisoners, but the population in March, 2010, was 303.

Frances Crook, director of the charity, called it a "crisis", adding: "Overcrowding results in fewer resources being available for each prisoner. Consequently, prison services focus on maintenance of basic amenities more than reintegration and security, more than purposeful activity and rehabilitation."

A total of 80 prisons out of the 139 in England and Wales are overpopulated, with around 19,000 inmates sharing a cell designed for just one person. On average, prisons are overcrowded by 111 per cent.

A spokesman from the prison service said the Ministry of Justice was unable to comment on HMP Canterbury.

He added: "Since April, 2007, over 7,500 places have been delivered under the capacity programme."

Girls just want to raise funds

■ BY MARIJKE COX

THE voices of 100 Kent women and a host of celebrities have hit the airwaves in a bid to top the charts and raise money for cancer research.

Music moguls hope their remake of 1980s classic Girls Just Want to Have Fun will reach number one as millions of women take to the streets in this year's 5km Race for Life, which is being held at towns across the UK over the next three months.

As the country's largest female-only event, the campaign, led by Cancer Research UK, has raised more than £300m since it first launched in 1994. And this year, as well as gearing up for Kent's six Race for Life events, 100 women lent their voices for the new charity single, released earlier this month.

Some of those involved in the recording, which took place at Bluewater in February, have had their own struggles with cancer.

They feature alongside 20 celebrities, including actress Caroline Quentin, glamour model Danielle Lloyd, TV presenter Zoe Salmon and actress and singer Kym Marsh.

DJ Sonique – famous for her number one hit It Feels So Good – also took part; stepping back into the limelight following her own battle with



GIRLS ALOUD: Singing for charity during the recording session at Bluewater are Carol Decker from 80s band T'Pau, Su-Elise Nash from former girlband Mis-Teeq and Lisa Scott-Lee, former Steps member; right is Caroline Quentin



breast cancer. The singer has just finished six weeks of radiotherapy after three operations to remove a cancerous lump.

The 41-year-old said: "Knowing the single features women who, like me, have been directly affected by cancer, as well as hundreds of women from across the UK, makes me feel extremely proud."

"Recording the single was so much fun and meeting other women who wanted to do their bit to help the cause was really inspirational."

"I hope this inspires people to buy the track

and inspires every woman, whether they want to walk, jog, or run, to sign up for a Race for Life this year too."

Race for Life is now in its 17th year, with more than 700,000 taking part last year and £60m raised for Cancer Research UK's lifesaving work.

To sign up for an event in your area or for more information about the single, priced at 79p for download, go to www.raceforlife.org.

Money raised through the single will go to Cancer Research UK.

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DAY & NIGHT

City hosts climate fair

FIND out how our planet is changing at Canterbury Climate Fair this weekend.

Stalls, entertainers and Fairtrade and organic stalls can be found along The Parade and St George's Street. The event, organised by Greenpeace, runs from 9am to 5pm on Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sunday. For details visit [find www.canterburyclimatefair.org](http://www.canterburyclimatefair.org).

Relax to choral music

ENJOY an evening of sacred choral music when Cantate Chamber Choir performs in Broadstairs on Sunday.

The choir will sing works by Bruckner, Stanford and John Rutter at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Broadstairs Road at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £6. For details of Cantate visit www.cantate-thanet.co.uk.

Trio to play the classics

SARAH Thorne spring classical concerts continue with a performance on piano, violin and cello.

Peter Hewitt, Peter Fisher and Peter Adams will play classics by Haydn, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky at the Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs at 3pm on Sunday. Tickets cost £8/£5. Call 0845 262 6263 or email info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk. Non-members must book at least 24 hours in advance.

Biggins is belle of ball

CHRISTOPHER Biggins will be the special guest auctioneer at Demelza House's May Ball on Saturday.

Held at Eastwell Manor near Ashford, the event will raise funds for the Kent children's hospice. Tickets, at £100, include Champagne and a three-course dinner. Call Sarah on 01795 845204, email sarah.taylor@demelza.org.uk or visit www.demelza.org.uk.

Boogie party with Pete

CHILDREN are invited to a party with TV favourite Boogie Pete on Sunday.

Pete Hillier, from the BAFTA-winning TV series Boogie Beebies, hosts Partytime, for children aged two and above. The show is at Quarterhouse, Folkestone at 2.30pm and tickets cost £8 or £28 for families. Call 01303 858500 or visit www.quarterhouse.co.uk.

Classic cars and beer

HUNDREDS of vehicles will be on display this weekend at the Faversham Classic Car and Motorcycle Show.

The show is in the town centre on Sunday and information can be found online at www.faversham.org.uk. Visitors can also take a tour of Shepherd Neame brewery. To book visit www.shepherdneame.co.uk or call 01795 542016.

Don't miss Swan Lake

VIENNA Festival Ballet returns to Margate on Sunday with Swan Lake.

Danced to Tchaikovsky's unforgettable music, Swan Lake can be seen at the Winter Gardens at 5pm. Tickets cost £17/£15 for adults, £8 for children and £7.50 for dance schools. To book call 01843 292795/296111 or visit www.margatewintergardens.co.uk.



A night out with Jools and friends

JOOLS HOLLAND

Saturday, June 12, Winter Gardens, Margate.



GET ready to boogie on down to Thanet next month when the inimitable Jools Holland pays a visit.

With his famous Rhythm and Blues Orchestra, Holland's live shows have become must-see events for fans of toe-tapping, hip-swinging music.

In recent years, Holland has performed to four million people and his concerts have become an annual event for many people, who cannot get enough of the band's excellent musicianship. A party atmosphere pervades at all their shows and June's concert is sure to get the summer off to a swinging start.

Some very special guests join Holland for the concert at the Winter Gardens, including singer Alison Moyet. With her distinctive, soul-infused voice, Moyet became a big star in the 80s as one half of Yazoo and went on to enjoy considerable solo success. The other guest vocalists will be Ruby Turner and Louise Marshall, and former Squeeze drummer Gilson Lavis will also be performing.

Born in south east London in 1958, Holland soon revealed himself to be a prodigious musical talent and by the time he was eight, he

could play the piano fluently by ear. During his early teens he began his performing career in London pubs, although his first steps to success came when he formed Squeeze at the age of just 15.

Along with Glenn Tilbrook and Chris Difford, he achieved extraordinary success, and hits such as Up The Junction and Cool For Cats still enjoy radio airplay today. Squeeze became popular in America and the band performed at the iconic Madison Square Garden.

During his days with Squeeze, Holland formed a lasting professional relationship with drummer Gilson Lavis, with whom he is still working today.

The pair became the first members of the Jools Holland Big Band, formed in 1987, which eventually became the 20-piece Jools Holland and his Rhythm and Blues Orchestra. Now a staple part of many fans' annual music calendar, the orchestra is always in demand and the highlight of many a festival.

Alongside his career as a musician, Holland has also become a TV presenter and broadcaster. He made his first foray into presenting when he interviewed The Police for a documentary in the early 80s and then auditioned for The Tube, a youth culture show which soon became cult viewing.

With his co-presenter Paula Yates, Holland helped to highlight countless new musicians

and comedians. His role as champion of new and diverse music continues today with his popular BBC series Later...With Jools Holland, on which established and more obscure artists have the chance to shine. The programme's Hootenanny is now a regular part of New Year's Eve celebrations, as unmissable as his live performances.

His highlights as an interviewer include a rare meeting with jazz legend Miles Davis in 1986 and Holland bears the unique honour of having performed with musicians who have achieved success in every decade of the 20th century.

Holland has also contributed to the film industry, with appearances in Spice World and Me & Orson Welles, and collaborated with Eddi Reader on tracks for the latter film. As a presenter he has fronted documentaries on American music and interviewed some of his own heroes, such as Fats Domino, Dr John and Lee Dorsey.

For his multimillion-selling series of recordings Jools and Friends, Holland has worked with a diverse array of artists from Sting, George Harrison and Eric Clapton to Sugababes, KT Tunstall and Norah Jones.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £32.50. To book visit the website at www.margatewintergardens.co.uk or call the box office on 01843 292795/296111.



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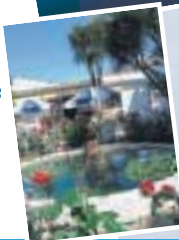
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SACCONI QUARTET

Friday, May 14 to Sunday, May 16,
St Mary & St Eanswythe's Church, Folkestone

EXPERIENCE the energetic and creative sound of the Sacconi Quartet as they return for their third annual Chamber Music Festival.

Renowned as one of Britain's leading young string quartets, the Sacconi Quartet presents the festival in association with the Creative Foundation.

Not only do they provide a series of concerts, the Quartet also takes part in outreach activities such as school workshops, family concerts and projects in prisons, refugee centres and care homes.

With the theme Tales of Bohemia, this year's festival fea-



tures works by Czech composers such as Janacek, Smetana, Suk and Dvorak. Their special guests include pianist Alisdair Beatson, violinist Jiri Zigmund and the Badke Quartet.

One highlight will be a performance of Janacek's second quartet, Intimate Letters, with a new literary overture by playwright Justin Pearson. Based on Janacek's love letters to his muse, Kamila Stösslová, the overture will be performed by actor Timothy West.

For full programme details visit www.sacconi.com/festival or call the Quarterhouse box office on 01303 858500.



FALCONRY DISPLAYS

Every Sunday, Doddington Place Gardens, Doddington

VISITORS now have even more to enjoy at Doddington Place Gardens since the arrival of some special new residents.

Birds of prey can now be seen in the skies above the property, since a group of the stunning creatures moved to Doddington from Leeds Castle. The birds are owned and managed by The Hawking Centre and the new arrivals will offer even more interest for visitors.

Every Sunday at 3pm, visitors can enjoy a falconry demonstration and learn more about these fascinating creatures, as well as witnessing them in graceful

flight. Doddington Place resident Amicia Oldfield spoke of her delight at seeing the birds of prey as they dive and swoop.

"The birds seem to be very well-trained," she said. "The tea room is just next to the place where they do the display, but I'm glad to say we haven't had any buzzards swooping down upon the chocolate cake."

Doddington Place Gardens are open from 2-5pm, every Sunday and bank holiday Monday until the end of September. Adult tickets cost £5.

Find out more at www.doddingtonplacegardens.co.uk.

1940S WEEKEND

Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16
Kent & East Sussex Railway, Tenterden

ALL aboard for a journey into the past as Kent and East Sussex Railways holds its annual 1940s event this weekend.

Discover what life was like in wartime Kent as passengers are shown how the railway's stations might have looked more than 60 years ago. With authentic 40s features such as sand bags and taped windows, the stations will be peopled by spivs, policemen and other wartime characters. Military and civilian vehicles will be on display and the Fire Service Preservation Society will demonstrate how the service dealt with blazes during World War Two.

Entertainment includes performances by 40s singer Fiona Harrison and toe-tapping dance demonstrations by the Cinque Port Lindy Hoppers, who will be grooving away in period costume on both days. There will be displays by the Lashenden Air Museum and the Hawker Hurricane Society, along with stalls showing custom-made 40s and 50s clothing and Cinque Ports Militaria.

For more information about the 1940s event, timetables and ticket prices, call 01580 765155 or visit the website at www.kesr.org.uk.



MARK WATSON

Friday, June 4, Brake Hall, Ashford School,



ONE of the country's fastest rising comedians will be paying a visit to Ashford ahead of his nationwide tour this autumn.

Mark Watson is one of the most likeable characters on the comedy scene and his career is continuing to go from strength to strength. His appearances on television shows like Mock the Week and Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow have spread his appeal even wider than the stand-up circuit, along with his adverts for Magners Pear Cider.

Watson began his comedy career in 2002 and immediately made a big impression, winning that year's Daily Telegraph Open Mic Competition. He went on to stage hugely successful shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, with his third visit resulting in sold-out performances every night of the run. As his profile rises, Watson has appeared at bigger and bigger events, such as hosting the NME Awards and appearing at the O2 Arena as part of Channel 4's Comedy Gala for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Tickets cost £12.50 and can be booked by calling 0871 220 0260 or visiting www.seetickets.com.



JANETTE GERI

Sunday, May 16, Granville Theatre, Ramsgate



WITH her unforgettable voice and remarkable talent, Janette Geri is a performer who leaves a great impression on all her audiences.

Fans love her for the warmth she brings to her performances, along with her wicked sense of humour that gives concerts an added spark. Teamed with her mastery of the acoustic guitar, Geri possesses soaring vocals that captivate audiences and can evoke a wide variety of moods.

Showing a genius flair for interpretation, Geri is a very capable solo performer who is sure to give an unforgettable performance for her fans in Thanet.

With two new albums to showcase, Geri shows her versatility by performing both the old and new.

Telling Tales is a collection of traditional Celtic songs, reworked with Geri's contemporary touch, while The Bastard's Daughter features new original songs that take the listener on an intimate journey, exploring the path that leads us from loss to liberation. Both albums have attracted acclaim for the quality of her arrangements, vocals and musical textures.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10/£9. To book call the box office on 01843 591750.



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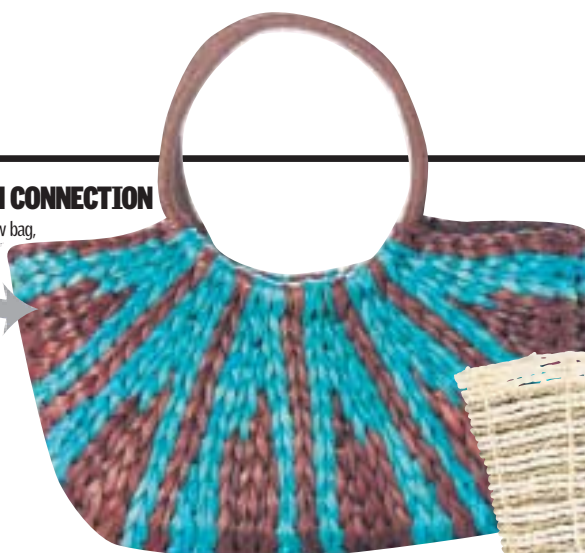


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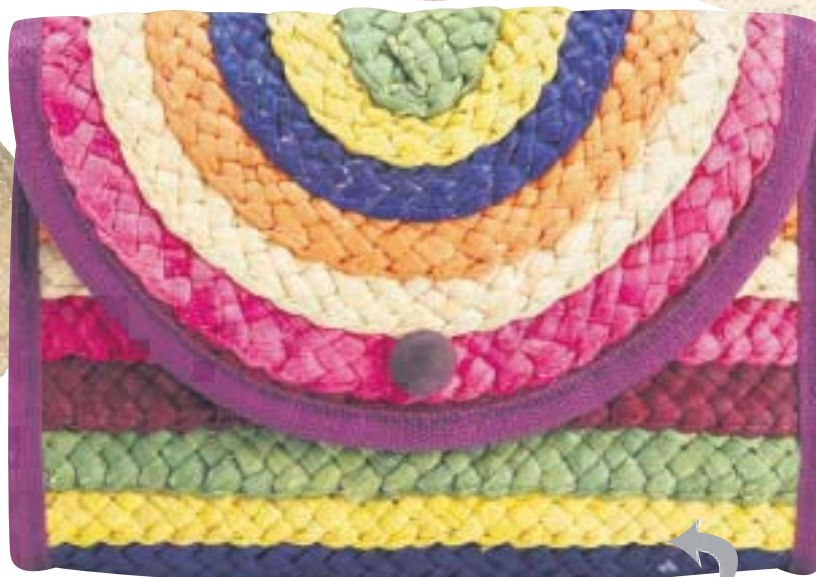
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WAITING FOR YOU Oriental single mum, 25, easy-going, looking for a nice guy, similar age, for lasting happiness. Box 851890

ARE YOU HER MAN OF THE MATCH? Fun-to-be-with, football-loving, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

THE ART OF THE MATTER 27-year-old female, 5ft8, medium-curved build, N/S, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, W/LTM tall, attractive male, 23-32, for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442644

STEP UP TO THE OCHE WITH ME! Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

FANCY A CUDDLE? Loving single mum, 29, shoulder length black hair, brown eyes, 5ft3, slim and sexy, part-time carer, looking for reliable, loving male. Canterbury. Box 464326

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, W/LTM cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879931

COULD I BE THE ONE? Single mum, 33, divorced, looking to meet a male who enjoys walking, going out, time in and out and much more. Maidstone. Box 464835

HORSES FOR COURSES... Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

FOOTLOOSE AND FANCY FREE Curvy brunette, 35, with green eyes, 5ft3, no ties, looking for an affectionate, and caring non-smoking guy to put the sparkle back into my life! Ashford. Box 849706

SHREK'S APPEAL! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, W/LTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453039

SEALED WITH A KISS Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wine and dining, walking, seeks loving, loyal man for friendship and more. Box 453079

GROW OLD WITH ME Single mum, 37yrs old, slim build, honest, kind and caring. I'm looking for LTR, love and romance with nice guy in Maidstone area. Box 860164

LOVE TO LOVE YOU Lovely female, 36, 5'4", medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

PUT A SMILE ON MY FACE Mum of three, 38, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male, 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693

MAGIC IN MARGATE Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, walking, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

FAMILY LIFE Fun to be with woman, 39, I love life, drinks in, walks, family life etc. Looking for a similar man in the Canterbury area. Box 467392

FAMILY ORIENTATED Eastbourne based woman, 39, 5ft8, slim/medium build. I'm a single mum, and enjoy cooking, music, family life. If you like the same, get in touch! Box 464034

DON'T LET ME DOWN Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684

SHOW ME HEAVEN Black lady, 38yr old, enjoys swimming, films and bird watching. Fairly new to the area. With a male for friendship and maybe romance. Box 441608

CUTE AS CAN BE Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983



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HAPPINESS, THE GREATEST GIFT... Shy female, 40, 5ft8, blue eyes, short blonde hair, medium build, loves going out, wine and dining, holidays; seeking likewise gentleman to be happy with. Box 446763

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE Lovely, glossy, brunette, 33yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, with a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but confident-one known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106

CALL ME Single, Asian lady, 41, living in Tunbridge Wells. I'm easygoing and fun loving and W/LTM single male to spend time with. Box 465481

MANY INTERESTS Hi, I'm based in Ashford and I'm looking for a nice guy in the area. I'm a single mum, 42 and enjoy cooking, and cosy nights. Box 468148

IT COULD BE US Professional, single woman, 42, easygoing and fun to be with, seeking a single, professional, solvent white male, 44-52 Tunbridge Wells. Box 798931

BE MY FRIEND AND PARTNER Hi there, I'm female, 43, 5ft6, medium build, long dark hair/green eyes. I enjoy cinema, eating out etc and W/LTM genuine, caring, loving male. Chatham. Box 466612

DOES THIS SOUND LIKE YOU? Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5ft8, dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving gent, 5ft9+. Box 461129

FREE AD placement, call: 0808 156 5339
(Calls are free; mobile rates may vary; check with your provider)

COLLECT your messages: 0906 550 4335
(Calls cost £1/min; contact your service provider for details)

NEW TO THIS Attractive single mum of 2, 43yrs old, 5ft1, medium build, GSOH, likes cooking, spending time with family & animals. W/LTM fun loving, kind, genuine man. Kent. Box 855182

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gsoh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348

ANOTHER CHAPTER Hard working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green-blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037

HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459128

GET CLOSE Funny, cheerful lady, 44, 5'6", curly hair, very social, likes walks and pubs. Looking for a cuddly and outgoing man for a close relationship. Faversham. Box 467518

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY Bubbly female, 44, brunette, n/s, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955

POSSIBLE LTR African lady, full figured and radiant! I'm a Christian, 46, 5ft5, attractive, caring and intelligent and enjoy jazz, travel, theatre. W/LTM decent, white male, Gillingham. Box 466617

COME ON OVER Fun-loving girl, 47, dark hair/eyes, attractive, looking for a similar male to enjoy nights out and good conversation. Rainham. Box 854480

GENIE IN A BOTTLE Slim blue-eyed blonde, 47, 5ft4, attractive lover with no ties, very sociable, non-smoker, loves the countryside, seeking easygoing companion and soulmate. Box 468120

YOUNG AT HEART Young 46, attractive, fun-loving female, looking for fit, handsome, intelligent, full of fun, sexy, worldly man to share everything that life has to offer. Box 884113

NOTHING VENTURED... Humble lady, 47, GSOH, down to earth, non-smoker, enjoys life, likes meals and days out, seeks a life-loving guy to enjoy a meal with. Rochester. Box 466286

ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULL Young-looking 46yr old female, 5ft4, slim, blonde, non-smoker, affectionate, loyal, caring, seeking a male, 40-45, up to 5ft7, to share life with. Ashford/Maidstone area please. Box 461938

NORMAL GAL Happy, 5ft7, looking for genuine man, laughter, sincerity, smart, kind, tall honest man, age under 48 and over 30 at must. Maidstone. Box 866380

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

HELP ME OPEN UP Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks, W/LTM male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444585

DREAM LOVER Petite blonde, young 49, loving, caring, enjoy music, walking, theatre dining in/out, looking for friendship and more with a genuine, caring and honest man. Rochester. Box 854822

MAKE IT ENJOYABLE Pretty, young-looking, slender woman, 49, dark-haired seeks reliable gentleman, 25-49 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 460686

ANY TAKERS? Divorced single lady, 49, 5ft4, animal lover, happy go lucky, likes quiet drinks and cinema, looking for a man for friendship, maybe a LTR. Ashford. Box 464557

BY MY SIDE Curvy woman, 49, 5ft10, I enjoy being by the sea, music, walks, meals out, cinema, cross-words, and reading. Seeking kind, caring man in the Maidstone area. Box 466608

ARE YOU LOVING AND CARING? Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5ft5, medium build, blonde eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434089

JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, W/LTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

DON'T PASS ME BY Petite brunette, 51, 5ft, likes live music, pubs and socialising, gsoh, seeking a like-minded male for a serious relationship. Hastings. Box 467807

HERE AND NOW Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

LOVELY BUBBLY Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with gsoh to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311

WRITTEN IN THE STARS Late 40's woman, likes picnics, the countryside, TV dramas, seeking a Pisces or Scorpio or Cancer male. Brighton. Box 468610

IT COULD BE US Happy-go-lucky lady, 53, 5ft3, slim, blonde-brown hair, blue eyes looking for a tall, honest guy, for love and laughter and happy times. South Kent. Box 464601

LOVE AND LAUGHTER AND HAPPY TIMES Petite woman, 53, with blonde/brown hair and blue eyes, 5'3", enjoys socialising, walking, cinema and generally having fun with a tall, honest man. Gillingham. Box 858610

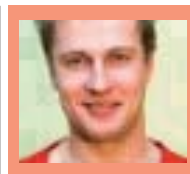
YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL... Young-looking, hard-working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 883410

QUALITY TIME 55 year old lady, 5ft8in, blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, quite fit, enjoys the outdoors, lots of walking, politics, family time with the right man. Box 848381

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(Calls cost £1.20/min; contact your service provider for details)

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You can choose to text the member's 6-digit box number followed by a space, then your message (max of 160 characters) and send to **82250** e.g. 654321 Hi my name is... Standard network rates apply to send messages. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message.



MEN seeking women

FOR LOVE Hard-working male, 29, 5ft10, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, plays harder! Likes going/seeing out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752

FULL OF LIFE Ashford man, 35, I'm single, no ties, and looking for a similar woman. I'm 6ft6, with blue eyes/brown hair and enjoy pubs/clubs, eating out etc. Box 467416

BOTTLE OF WINE Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft8, medium build, brown hair. I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165

CAN YOU PUT UP WITH ME? Hi I'm 37, 6ft, blue eyes, brown hair and medium build, great cook and SOH, seeking similar lady to take out. Box 451503

HOP ON BOARD! Average bloke, 38, shy! Seeks young lady, looks unimportant, single mums welcome. I love gardening and ring my moped. Sittingbourne. Box 468095

THE GOOD LIFE Young looking male, 39, quiet guy, looking for a LTR and a woman to relax and enjoy life together, with the right woman. Box 858113

LOVE TO LAUGH Looking for a love to earth green eyed lady. Must have a sense of humour and laugh at life's little surprises! I'm 39 with GSOH...Hastings. Box 862208

COME ON OVER TO MY PLACE Fun-loving male, 40, 6ft, short dark hair, brown eyes, enjoys most things in life, seeks slim female size 10-12 who's reasonably good looking. Box 456889

DO I ATTRACT YOU? Happy go lucky single dad, 40, looking for a slim female, -size 12, to share good times and happiness with. Hutton Box 457738

LOOK IN MY EYES Romantic, fun-loving man, 40, 6ft tall, with dark hair and brown eyes, looking for a kind, considerate and romantic female. Maidstone. Box 459006

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS Loving and caring male, 40, 5ft8, medium build, average looks, seeks outgoing, loving, caring person to find love with. Canterbury. Box 458290

FISHING & CAMPING! Fun-loving male, 40, not of many words, likes sports, music, reading and films, seeks company and companion. Snodland. Box 465333

LOOKING FOR A BIRDIE! Hi there, I'm Chris, 38, in good shape, attractive, own place, hard working and honest, loves days out, golf, summer/looking for loving companion. Box 450317

MAKE YOUR MARK Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair, blue eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, W/LTM someone trustworthy and caring. Box 448372

COME ON OVER Professional personal trainer, 42, 5ft10, green eyes, brown hair, athletic, seeking a female, 25-45, for fun times and friendship. Chatham. Box 468675

FUN & OUTGOING? Young at heart 44yr old male, stocky build, 5ft10, Kent based, father, honest and down-to-earth, likes music, nights in, walking the dog, seeks genuine lady. Box 851804

GOT A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOUR? Malcolm, 43, dark-haired, 5ft10, spent a long time on the shelf so looking for chats, friendship and maybe more with a film and music fan. Box 451581

LET'S BUILD A ROMANCE Hello, I'm Simon 43, single man in Kent own a construction co. Muscular build, blue-eyed, ruggedly handsome. Looking for a honest and genuine lady. Box 453322

BROWSE and listen line: 0906 753 3093
(Calls cost 75p/min; contact your service provider for details)

HELP required with service? 0871 220 9205
Live assistance, 2pm-5.30pm, Mon to Fri | Email: louise@g8wave.co.uk (Calls cost 10p/min; contact your service provider for details)

GSOH ESSENTIAL American male, 44, loves playing the guitar, looking for a decent female with a sense of fun about them. Brighton Box 461140

LOOKING FOR LOVE? Easygoing guy with wicked SOH, 45, 5ft11, slim-medium build, blue eyes and fair hair, loves animals, pubs and more, seeks loving lady for romance. E Sussex. Box 468369

CHEEK TO CHEEK Hard working gent, 45, slim, 6ft, looking for full time relationship with a cinema, bowling and film lover! Gillingham. Box 468396

MAKE A MOVE Single dad, 45, white, likes cooking, gardening, and a passion for Reggae music, seeking a black woman for friendship and romance. Folkestone area. Box 468542

MUSIC LOVER Richard here, I'm 45, very loving, and I like holidays, listening to music, theatre, cooking, cinema, museums and restaurants. You? Ashford. Box 467883

EASY TO LOVE Margate male, 46, tall and slim, easy-going, enjoy cinema, socialising and sport, looking for a decent lady, 40-55, for friendship and maybe a ltr. Box 468189

ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS Single guy, 47, 5ft8, been hurt in the past, works full time, looking for a Sussex-based lady to share life with. Kids not problem. Box 468082

MEET YOUR MATCH! Slim single dad, 47, works full time, looking for a slim/medium build lady, 25-50, children not a problem. Hobbies include, fishing, football, day and cooking. Dover. Box 462630

NEEDING LOVE 47yr old Brighton based man, own home/business, seeks genuine local lady aged 45-50 years to share it all with. Box 463623

TAKE MY HAND Genuine, honest man, 47, likes dining out, walking, looking to share the good life with a woman, 35-50, Deal, Kent. Box 460441

LOVE SHOULD BE EASY Laid-back single guy, 48, from Hythe, 6ft, slightly overweight/trying to lose it, seeking a fun to be around female to takes things slow with. Box 468498

GET BACK TO ME Good looking divorced man, 49, 6ft, likes keeping in shape, loves music and gigs; seeking slim lady, 30-40, relaxed, laid-back, for hopeful good relationship. Hythe. Box 460338

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL Ashford man, 54, brown hair/blue eyes, 5ft4, divorced-grown up daughter, enjoy walking, days in/out, quiet drink and football, looking for an educated female, 40-60. Box 465231

DANCING THROUGH LIFE Active and easy-going male, mid 50's, always tries to see the funny side of life, looking for a like-minded independent female. Box 464771

HAND IN HAND Easygoing man, 57, would like to meet someone to share good and bad times, finding that special person to be with soul mates. Box 861243

AROUND AND AROUND Active male, 59, dark hair, 5'7, keeps fit, cycles, seeking a cuddly, curvy, mature lady for friendship. Canterbury. Box 467423

TAKE A CHANCE Kent gent, 57, like music, socialising, cinema, fishing and holidays abroad, looking for a wonderful lady, 50-60, for friendship and romance. Cranbrook. Box 468651

ONWARDS & UPWARDS Early 50s widower, very honest and genuine, loves rock music, violin player, great cook, school worker, just hoping to meet someone. Langley. Box 468690

GET TOGETHER Divorced male, 59, 5ft8in, slim with grey hair, likes gardening, fishing, cycling, walks, cooking, going out, travel, seeks a fun and similar woman. Aylesford. Box 468615

HELLO THERE! Sociable lad, 59, from Ashford, enjoy motor racing, films and watching television, looking for a lady to share the good things in life with. Box 465607

CONSIDER THIS Professional male, 50s, likes live music, eating in and out, W/LTM slim female, to share interests together. Sittingbourne. Box 453535

A NICE WALK? Genuine chap, 60, medium build, brown hair/eyes. I enjoy socialising, pub meals, walking, cycling and I'm looking for lady with similar interests. Margate area. Box 467429

SINCERE male, 55, seeks genuine, loving female for friendship and possible relationship. Box 710294

LOVE IS THE ANSWER Retired 62yr old male, 6ft, blue eyes, solvent, hobbies include music, films, reading, American comics and football. W/LTM a sweet lady for friendship/love. Herne Bay. Box 460106

SAVING ALL MY LOVE FOR YOU Lorry driver, 63, 5ft9, slim, separated, likes going to the pub, playing golf and music, looking for a lovely lady to share life with. Maidstone. Box 462530

THE SIMPLE THINGS Slim 60s male, 6ft, non smoker, likes country pubs, log fires, W/LTM tall, slim non-smoking female 55-68. Battle. Box 455050

Men seeking men

TALL ORDER 40yr old chap, 5ft8, dark, slim/muscular build, good looking. Looking for a tall guy for fun. Box 439132

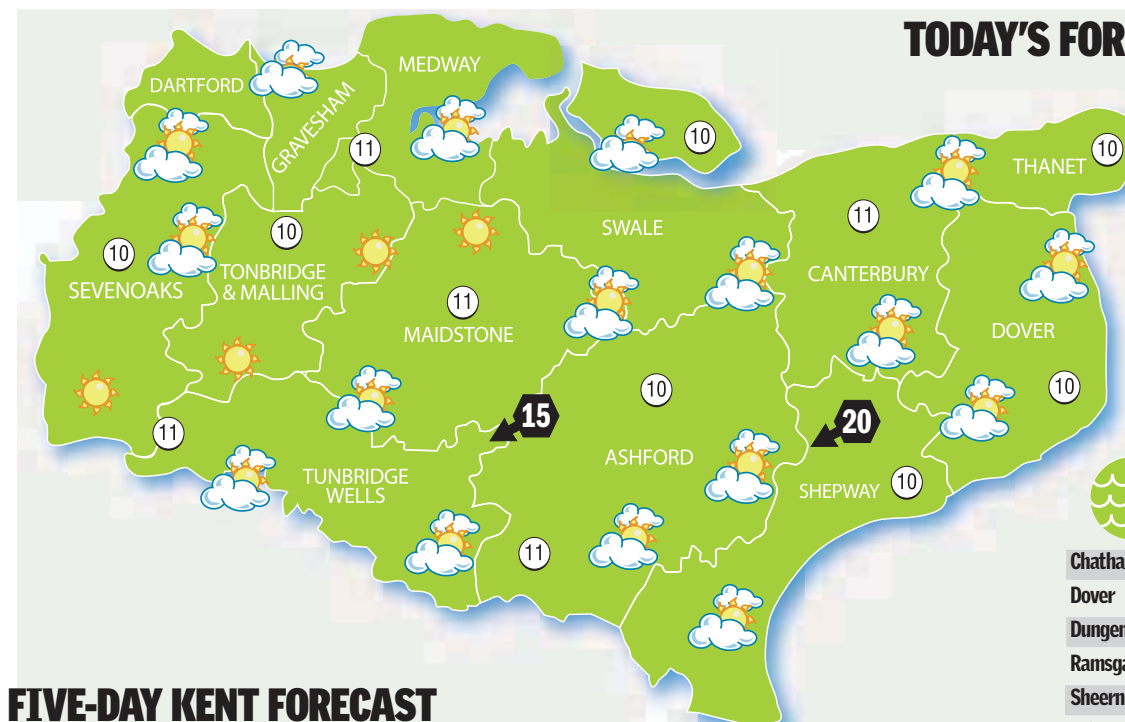
GOOD NATURE Down-to-earth guy, 46, green eyes, dark hair, slim, enjoys holidays, music, pubs, eating in/out, W/LTM male, 35-50, for friendship, companionship/relationship with the right one. Birchington. Box 467785

GAME FOR A LAUGH? Tall male, 48, slim, likes keeping fit, nights out on the town, holidays abroad, seeking a guy, 22-40, for fun times and friendship. Ramsgate. Box 467901

DON'T HOLD BACK Loving, sincere male, 50, 6ft, medium build, likes art, nice clothes, music, walks, holidays, seeking a man 35-50 for a real and loving relationship. Eastbourne Box 468583

LOVE IN MARGATE 61yr old easy-going guy, likes reading, the outdoors, keeping fit, looking for a similar, with a positive outlook in life. Box 468581

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TODAY'S FORECAST



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	9°C	Madrid	15°C
Athens	24°C	New York	11°C
Barcelona	19°C	Paris	14°C
Beijing	23°C	Rome	21°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	23°C
Cape Town	17°C	Tenerife	24°C
Cardiff	13°C	Tokyo	22°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	17°C
Hong Kong	24°C	Warsaw	17°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	17°C

KENT'S WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	2:28pm 6.0m	Sunday	3:06pm 5.9m
Dover	Saturday	12:33pm 6.4m	Sunday	1:16pm 6.5m
Dungeness	Saturday	12:42pm 7.5m	Sunday	1:19pm 7.6m
Ramsgate	Saturday	1:03pm 4.9m	Sunday	1:46pm 4.9m
Sheerness	Saturday	2:18pm 5.7m	Sunday	2:56pm 5.7m
Whitstable	Saturday	2:14pm 5.1m	Sunday	2:54pm 5.1m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	11°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C
Canterbury	10°C	11°C	12°C	14°C	15°C
Chatham	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C
Dartford	12°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C

Dover	9°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	14°C
Faversham	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C
Folkestone	9°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	14°C
Gillingham	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C

Gravesend	12°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C
Maidstone	12°C	12°C	13°C	14°C	16°C
Ramsgate	10°C	11°C	12°C	14°C	15°C
Rochester	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C

Sevenoaks	10°C	11°C	11°C	13°C	14°C
Sittingbourne	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C
Tonbridge	11°C	12°C	14°C	14°C	16°C
Tun Wells	11°C	12°C	14°C	14°C	16°C



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MOONRISE 3.51am **MOONSET** 7.19pm


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yourcompetition

DWAYNE Johnson is the Tooth Fairy, also known as Derek Thompson, a hard-charging hockey player whose nickname comes from his habit of separating opposing players from their bicuspid.

When Derek discourages a youngster's dreams, he's sentenced to one week's hard labour as a real tooth fairy, complete with the requisite wings and magic wand. At first, Derek "can't handle the tooth" – bumbling and stumbling as he tries to furtively wing his way through strangers' homes... doing what tooth fairies do. But as Derek slowly adapts to his new position, he begins to rediscover his own forgotten dreams.

One of today's most popular actors, Dwayne Johnson's juxtaposition of sharp comedic timing and impressive physicality has delighted audiences in pictures like *The Game Plan*, *Get Smart* and *Race to Witch Mountain*. His latest effort, *Tooth Fairy*, brings together several elements he thought would be fun to explore. "It's a story with universal appeal," says Johnson. "It's a fish-out-of-water tale about believing in the impossible and the magic. It's for families and everyone."

"The Tooth Fairy is part of our culture and part of the wonderment of being a child. It's a character that's never been explored, to this extent, in the movies."

To most of the world, the Tooth Fairy is a magical figure. Like Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy is both an inspiring and comforting character who teaches children to use their imaginations – and to dream. And while there are no definitive renderings, most of us envision the Tooth Fairy as a gentle sprite

WIN! Tooth Fairy goodies TEN sets to giveaway...

who magically appears during a child's slumbers to take his or her newly-displaced tooth from under the pillow and replace it with money.

It's a safe bet that no one has imagined the Tooth Fairy to be a hockey player/enforcer – until Derek Thompson, beloved by his fans for his hyper-aggressive play on the ice, becomes the newest addition to ranks of Tooth Fairydom.

Yourlocal has ten sets of Tooth Fairy merchandise, which includes a Tooth Fairy T-shirt, Frisbee, toothbrush, Amnesia Dust, stationery set, tooth-shaped USB plus lots more to giveaway to ten lucky readers.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Tooth Fairy Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is May 30, 2010.

Question: What sport does the Tooth Fairy play?

No purchase necessary. For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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yourmusic

Lounge favourites to headline folk stage



SWINGING TRIO: Kitty, Daisy and Lewis will headline the the LOTF folk stage

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

SWING siblings Kitty, Daisy and Lewis have been unveiled as Lounge on the Farm's folk stage headliners.

The London-based trio were hand-picked to top the Farm Folk tent by curators from the celebrated Flowerpot venue in Camden.

Also on the bill are Johnny Flynn, Peggy Sue, Beans on Toast, Lu Lu & The Lampshades and Medicine Show.

A Lounge spokesman said: "Camden's celebrated Flowerpot venue will be transporting their widespread reputation for showcasing quality music from their famous London haven to Merton Farm on Saturday 10th July to host the Farm Folk stage.

"With headliners and firm LOTF favourites Kitty, Daisy and Lewis already announced, the Flowerpot line-up will also include violin-fuelled goodness from Johnny Flynn, who will be celebrating the release of his forthcoming Been Listening album, much admired Wichita Recordings signed Brighton folksters Peggy Sue, country-rock sextet the Barker Band, pop-flavoured vaudeville from Alan Pownall and pure and primal rabble rousing from The Agitator."

Among the Lounge headliners are Motown greats Martha Reeves & The Vandellas, ska legends Toots & The Maytals, The Crazy World of Arthur Brown, DJ Yoda and Courtney Pine.

Lounge promoters are promising their fifth year will be the biggest and best yet.

The spokesman added: "With increased capacity, this year's Lounge On The Farm looks set to be the finest yet.

"We have a medley of musical pleasures – from local heroes and the next big things to the truly legendary – spread across seven stages, plus incredible comedy, theatre, burlesque and vaudeville treats, the kids' Little Lounge area and some of the most refined, locally sourced, rustic

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Belleville perform For You (Forever Young) in Canterbury.



Jus' Ben covers Keane's modern classic Everybody's Changing.



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Craig Sheridan – Times Change (from Deal)
- 2 Shelta – Beautiful Girl (from Bexley)
- 3 Ron Bowdery – The Hooray Henries (from New Eltham)
- 4 Flipswitch – Position Politician (from Whitstable)
- 5 Gristlebridge – Wanna be Famous (from Whitstable)

refreshments to be found at any festival anywhere."

LOTF takes place at Merton Farm, Canterbury, from Friday, July 9, to Sunday, July 11.

A weekend adult ticket costs £95. Day tickets cost £40 for adults, £30 for youths and £20 for children.

For more information visit www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk

FARM FOLK LINE-UP: Kitty, Daisy & Lewis, Johnny Flynn, Peggy Sue, Barker Band, Alan Pownall, The Agitator, Beans on Toast, Rum Shebeen, The Musical Difference, Lu Lu & The Lampshades, Handshake, The Joke & The Thief, Medicine Show.



SEASIDE SPECTACULAR: Views from the Bournemouth Eye are stunning. Poole home to Sunseeker, builders of multi-millionaires' yachts

yourgetaways

Take a fresh look at top UK holiday destination

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

RECESSION and an Icelandic volcano have given a massive boost to the UK's tourism industry as Brits rediscover the brilliance of their homeland.

Bournemouth could not have picked a better time to emerge as one of the UK's top holiday resorts.

A long weekend seemed an ideal opportunity to find out why a resort once seen as quaint has not so much reinvented itself, as simply moved with the times in a way any number of British seaside towns have failed.

It is a leading destination for water sports fans – including surfing, water-skiing, diving and jetskiing – as well as having almost 10 miles of sandy beaches.

Boscombe to the east has Europe's first artificial surf reef (and beach 'pods' designed by Wayne Hemingway) and to the west Poole sits on the largest natural harbour in Europe – that means sheltered water and a fascinating history.

Bournemouth town centre and sea front on a late April weekend bustled with shoppers, families and students as bands played in the Lower Gardens – the place had a real buzz.

Eating out is a magnificent adventure with 400 restaurants and bars on offer, and I think we got lucky.

The Print Room, right opposite my hotel in the town centre, held a special interest for me situated as it is in the room where the press had lived for the town's evening paper.

Three years ago it was transformed into a 1930s-style eatery, with wooden seating booths complete with a mirror-backed bar, Swarovski chandeliers and a black-and-white chequered floor.

The food was excellent and, as one critic said, it is one of the south coast's best kept secrets.

The following day we enjoyed lunchtime cocktails and a superb Thai-style meal in the Aruba, situated unexpectedly through a doorway at the front of Bournemouth pier.

Climb a few stairs and you will be

KEY FACTS: BOURNEMOUTH AND POOLE

Beaches	10 Miles, sandy
Watersports	Surfing, skiing... everything
Eating Out	400 restaurants and bars
Hotels	200, all prices, plus 200 B&Bs
Nightlife	Dozens of clubs



- Gary Wright was a guest of www.coastwiththemoost.com.
- He stayed two nights at the Norfolk Royale Hotel in Bournemouth which costs around £289 for two including breakfast. www.norfolk-royale-hotel.com
- Use the distinctive yellow taxis to get around and night buses run between Bournemouth and Poole.
- The excellent Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum is free entry. Recommended
- For a relaxed break, take a cruise from anywhere along the coast. www.dorsetcruises.co.uk
- In Bournemouth's Lower Gardens, the tethered hot air balloon offers spectacular views from 500ft. Choose a clear day and it's £12 for adults.

surprised by the airy space offering seaviews, packed with diners.

Do take a few minutes to find it, most locals know it, a lot of visitors miss it. Recommended.

And that evening we had been directed to the newly reopened Ventana Brasserie, part of the stunning Art Deco-styled Cumberland Hotel, a short taxi ride from Bournemouth centre.

The food was ambitious but good (and very reasonably priced), the staff were courteous and the gorgeous décor was in keeping with the building. You could almost have been in a 1930s Hollywood musical set. But the plasma TV with Sky sports news ruined the effect, even with the sound turned down.

Now don't think this weekend was one long food festival. Oh no, we managed to pop into the Oceanarium (near the pier), and saw turtles, sharks and a lot of fish.

I loved it, kids will love it and its one to keep up your sleeve if the weather turns nasty.

We also found time for a trip on the Bournemouth Eye, a huge tethered helium balloon soaring to 500ft out of the Lower Gardens.

Views were spectacular, one of the signs I'm sure claimed 60 miles, but the sea mist curbed that a little.

By Sunday lunchtime we'd moved on to Poole. A different proposition from Bournemouth yet closely related. The old town really is, well, old with a sprinkling of little shops, yet still has the feel of a working harbour.

Then it was time to eat again: Sunday lunch at the Custom House, overlooking the quay and the world-famous Sunseeker boatyard (I use the term in the way one might call Wembley simply a football ground) which added glamour.

So replete, again (splendid three-course Sunday lunch) we wander around the Poole Pottery then relaxed with a quiet drink on the harbour front and reflected this part of Britain offers so much... and it's only a couple of hours drive from Kent.



KOS 19



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Isle of Wight Christmas Party at Warner Norton Grange

Norton Grange is a friendly Warner Resort situated on the Isle of Wight coast just outside Yarmouth. Join us for a fun-filled **Christmas Party** - for over 40s only - featuring cabaret and variety entertainment and more. Get into the festive spirit with good food and great entertainment - and a **Free Bar** every day - perfect for a pre-Christmas get together.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.
- **Full programme of variety entertainment and activities**
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded en-suite chalet - upgrades available
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna, jacuzzi
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included

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CAR FERRY INCLUDED**



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Mamma Mia Christmas Party at Warner Bembridge, Isle of Wight

Join us for an early Christmas Party on the Isle of Wight for over 50s only. Warner's luxurious Bembridge Coast Hotel will resound to the sights and sounds of Abba as our fabulous party weekend includes a screening of Mamma Mia the Movie, an Abba Tribute Band playing live, a Free Bar every night and a Fireworks display. You're also assured of Warner's quality hallmark - great food, great entertainment and great facilities.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- **Free Bar** from 6pm to 11pm every day (not departure day) for house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee
- **Variety Entertainment & Activities programme** including Abba Tribute Band & Mamma Mia movie screening
- **Meals:** 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing an en-suite Ambassador room - upgrades available
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included

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Here's an opportunity - for over 40s only - to extend the New Year celebrations at Sinah Warren, Warner's luxury hotel on Hayling Island. There'll be live entertainment every evening and, to help the party go with a swing, there's Free Drinks too. You can also expect the Warner hallmark of quality accommodation and great food - a varied breakfast menu and a 3-course dinner with a wide choice including a carvery.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.
- **Full programme of entertainment & activities**
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
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PRICE INCLUDES:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.
- **Full programme of variety entertainment and dancing** including top dancers in Cabaret & dance tuition PLUS a Grand Ball
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool & sauna
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included

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ABTA Y0291

Iron Man 2 is not such a Marvel

■ BY DAMON SMITH

DIRECTOR Jon Favreau's first encounter with the Marvel Comics superhero was one of the most exhilarating diversions of the 2008 summer blockbuster season.

The film's heady conflation of dazzling special effects, playful performances and sizzling screen chemistry between Robert Downey Jr and Gwyneth Paltrow jet-propelled the film to gargantuan box office takings in excess of half a billion dollars.

Money talks loudly in Hollywood and so, inevitably, Favreau and most of his cast return for the sequel.

The weight of expectation on Iron Man 2 would test even the strength of the eponymous hero's red and gold armour and regrettably, the turbo-charged sequel misfires.

Screenwriter Justin Theroux struggles to integrate the new characters and to strike the same rumbustious tone as the first film.

However, he does incorporate several scenes of Nick Fury (Samuel L Jackson) which lay the groundwork for the forthcoming film of The Avengers featuring Iron Man, Captain America and The Incredible Hulk.

A brief sequence after the end credits continues to whet the appetite of ardent fans of the comics.

Billionaire industrialist Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr) announces to the world that he is Iron Man and buoys his over-inflated ego with the adulation of the masses.

He single-handedly maintains world peace to the chagrin of the US government and private investors, who are keen to acquire his technology for their own needs.

Stark refuses to share his invention, causing a furore at a Senate Armed Services Committee run by Senator Stern (Garry Shandling). Soon after, Russian physicist Ivan Vanko (Mickey Rourke), whose father helped pioneer the Iron Man technology, creates a crude replica of the electromagnetic device in the industrialist's chest and transforms himself into the villainous Whiplash.

His attack on Stark during a grand prix compels the military to take action, seizing one of the suits.

Stark races to avert disaster aided by good friend 'Rhodey' (Don Cheadle), new secretary



SEQUEL: Scarlett Johansson, left, joins the cast of Iron Man 2, in which Robert Downey Jr plays the red and gold, arrogant but entertaining hero



Natalie Rushman (Scarlett Johansson) and chauffeur Happy Hogan (Jon Favreau).

Meanwhile, rival arms industrialist Justin Hammer (Sam Rockwell) concocts a plan to destroy Stark Industries, which is now under

the control of new CEO, Virginia 'Pepper' Potts (Gwyneth Paltrow).

Iron Man 2 is weighed down by the anguish of Downey Jr's inventor, who is being poisoned to death by the technology that keeps him alive.

There are a couple of cute one-liners – "Don't be mad. I'm fending off a Hammer-oid attack!" – but these are few and far between.

The rapport with Paltrow's sassy love interest energises several scenes and Rourke's tattooed villain is quietly compelling, destroying the myth of Iron Man because as he tells Stark, "If you can make God bleed then people will cease to believe."

Action scenes are slickly orchestrated but don't get the blood pumping and the final showdown is a huge anti-climax.

Like its egotistical central protagonist, the sequel feels tired.

IRON MAN 2 
Certificate 12A

PICTURE BBC



ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT: BBC's police drama Luther fails to bring anything new



YOUR TV REVIEW LUTHER: BBC One, 9pm, Tuesday

■ BY TOM BETTS

IDRIS Elba was in The Wire, which, in case you haven't heard is a legendary American cop show, that had critics frothing at the mouth with superlatives to describe its quality.

The imposing actor played the brooding, cerebral drug-dealer Stringer Bell and was one of the best TV characters of all time – no small praise there.

I never knew he was British until recently, which is a testament to just how well he carried off the role.

Not once did you hear him break into any accent other than that of Bell and he was utterly convincing.

The BBC obviously knew a good thing when they saw it, and snapped him up for Luther, its own big new cop drama. Here he very much takes centre stage, whereas in The Wire he was one of many who made up a terrific ensemble cast.

I usually avoid this kind of show like the plague, but thought I'd tune in on the strength of his casting.

The results are mixed, however.

Elba's performance is solid enough, but the show is too bogged down in clichés to really make much of an impression.

Like every TV cop with a maverick streak, John Luther has woman troubles, seems almost consumed by self-loathing and has flashback problems which give him a huge chip on his shoulder.

He broods a lot, too. He has a dark side, you see, and if you didn't see that coming a mile off then you should get down to Specsavers.

I accept that a cop drama might be hard going if the character was

whiter than white, but the same old plot devices come up time and time again.

Would it really be that hard to draw up something new, to make the character stand out from the crowd a bit?

The show is pretty nice to look at, and the streets of London are shot with panache, but was revealing the wrongdoer, before the plot unfolded, really a wise move?

Luther is not a disaster just a little unoriginal and by the book to really warrant too much praise.

There is certainly room for improvement and perhaps this will get better as we learn a bit more about why the character is the way he is.

Let's just hope for a few surprises along the way or this could tail off into just another cop show territory.

MOTORS NEWS



Audi baby meets small, but premium needs

ORDER books have opened on Audi's new premium baby car – the A1. It is smart and distinctive, in a sector increasingly important to well-heeled buyers.

Priced from £13,145 to £18,280, standard kit includes alloys, electronic stability control, electric mirrors and a six-speaker sound system with auxiliary/iPod connection. Power comes from turbocharged diesel and petrol units starting with a lively 86PS (84bhp) 1.2-litre that delivers a 0-62mph time of 11.7 seconds with 55.4mpg capability and low CO2 of 118g/km.



Peugeot sales boosted in its bicentennial year

APRIL saw another strong performance from Peugeot in the run up to its 200th anniversary in May.

While the overall UK car market reported an 11.5 per cent increase last month against April 2009, the French marque leapt 21.6, helped by a huge boost to sales of its HDi diesel models (+53.4).

Two of the other success stories were the Peugeot 3008 crossover (What Car? Car of the Year 2010) and the refined Peugeot 5008 (pictured and also What Car? MPV of the Year 2010).



Second edition Skodas are towing the Greeline

FOLLOWING facelifts for its Fabia supermini and Roomster MPV, Skoda Auto has unveiled Fabia Estate and Roomster GreenLine II versions.

These are second generation environmentally-friendly models from the Czech marque, with major changes including a new 1.2TDI diesel, start-stop technology and energy recuperation. The new engine delivers 83.1 mpg and CO2 emissions of 89 g/km in the Fabia estate version and 67.3 and 109 g/km respectively for the Roomster. Prices to be announced.



BEAUTY THAT'S A BEAST: Nissan's excellent 370Z represents superb value for money when compared to German sporty rivals such as the Audi TT, BMW Z4 and Porsche Boxster

Latest Z-Car continues to uphold proud legacy

NISSAN launched its original 'Z' sports coupé here in 1970's.

The dynasty has not always impressed like that debutante though – then known as a Datsun – but the beefy 2003 vintage 350Z marked an impressive return to form. And it made way last year for the excellent 370Z derivative tested here in flagship GT form.

This ticks open boxes left by its predecessor; nobody doubted the 350Z's value for money, but the newer car's cabin is closer to its £28,345 to £31,645 price band.

And while the 350Z appeared muscular, some saw it as porkiness; the 370Z is actually seven centimetres shorter yet looks more slim-waisted.

A rather intrusive bracing bar behind the 350Z's front seats has been lowered and camouflaged too, without affecting the stiffness of the car, which is also 32 kilos lighter.

But don't think the 'Z' has gone soft. The 328bhp 3.7-litre V6 – up from the 350Z's 309bhp – sounds brutal when challenged, revs cleanly (0-60mph in 5.3 seconds) yet feels refined and muted on a high-speed motorway dash.

Like its predecessor though, the 370Z can be

ROAD TEST NISSAN 370Z

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

hard work in traffic, with its heavy clutch and a six-speed gearshift that can feel lumpy at low speeds – the seven-speed auto option might be preferable if you want more all-round ability.

However, the manual option does have Synchro Rev Control (SRC). Nissan calls this "the world's first fully synchronised down/up shift rev control system allowing drivers of any skill level to experience perfectly smooth gear shifts every time." I turned it off soon though, preferring to blip the throttle myself.

The wheelbase is slightly shorter than before, but the rear-driven coupé is well-balanced and the direct steering and lively engine – in both the revs and sound departments – make for an exciting drive. A predictable and well-controlled tendency to step out slightly on the corners make it a real enthusiast's car – especially with the SRC switched off.

It also represents superb value.

Obvious German rivals to the 370Z series – a lovely roadster is also available from £30,445 – are the Audi TT, BMW Z4 and the Porsche Boxster/Cayman.

The Nissan cannot have the same badge cachet, but for ability and standard spec at bargain prices, it must not be ignored.



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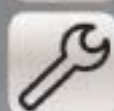
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£9999	£675	£235	£54.23	£385
Total Amount Payable £12575*			APR 12.5%	

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Cash Price	Deposit	58 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
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Total Amount Payable £12067.20*			APR 11.9%	

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Cash Price	Deposit	48 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
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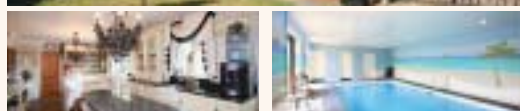
Rainham
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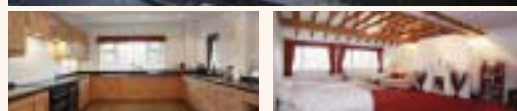
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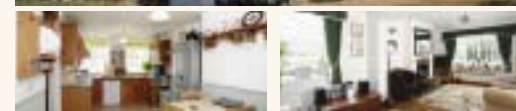
HOMES
FEATURED IN



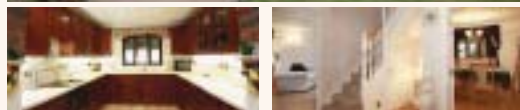
Iwade
• 5 BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE
• REFURBISHED THROUGHOUT
• 1 BEDROOM ANNEX
• APPROX 26FT LOUNGE
Guide Price £550,000 - £575,000
• HIGH SPEC KITCHEN
• INDOOR SWIMMING POOL
• GAMES ROOM
• 3 GARAGES (2 DOUBLES)
REF: Prestige_59896S



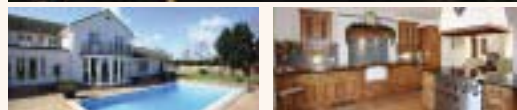
Walderslade
• 5 BED DETACHED HOUSE
• 2 BEDROOM DETACHED ANNEXE
• 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• EN-SUITE TO MASTER
£619,995
• SUN TERRACE
• UTILITY ROOM
• FAMILY BATHROOM
• SHOWER ROOM
REF: Prestige_59894S



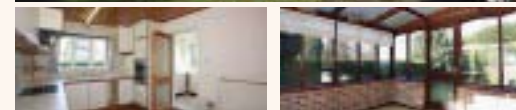
Isle of Harty
• 4 BEDROOM DETACHED
• APPROX 2.5 ACRES
• PADDOCKS
• 2 RECEPTIONS
OIEO £550,000
• RIVER VIEWS
• STABLE BLOCK
• STORE BARN
• CELLAR
REF: Prestige_59895S



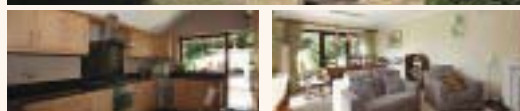
Walderslade
• EXECUTIVE DETACHED HOUSE
• 4 BEDROOMS
• VILLAGE LOCATION
• EN-SUITE
£525,000
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• FAMILY BATHROOM
• STUDY
• DOUBLE GARAGE
REF: Prestige_59897S



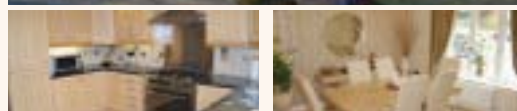
Upchurch
• 5 BEDROOM DETACHED RESIDENCE
• 1.5 ACRE PLOT
• 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• 2 BEDROOM ANNEXE
£1,100,000
• 4 ENSUITES
• BALCONIES
• SWIMMING POOL
• SNOOKER ROOM & GYMNASIUM
REF: Prestige_64541S



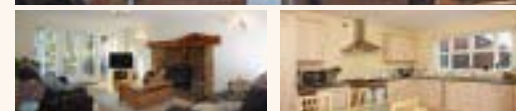
East Farleigh
• 3 DOUBLE BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• POTENTIAL FOR ANNEXE
• DOUBLE GARAGE & OFF ROAD PARKING
£510,000
• CONSERVATORY
• FRONT, SIDE & REAR GARDENS
• VERSATILE ACCOMMODATION
• VILLAGE LOCATION
REF: Prestige_62058S



Halling
• DETACHED HOUSE
• 4 BEDROOMS
• RIVER MEDWAY VIEWS
• INDIVIDUAL DESIGN
£499,995
• 4 RECEPTION ROOMS
• DOUBLE GARAGE
• VILLAGE LOCATION
• KITCHEN OVERLOOKING GARDEN
REF: Prestige_59901S



Walderslade
• DETACHED HOUSE
• 4 BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• QUIET GATED DEVELOPMENT
£365,000
• EN-SUITE
• POPULAR LOCATION
• DOUBLE GARAGE
• INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED
REF: Prestige_60051S



Gillingham
• 4 BEDROOM DETACHED
• MODERN KITCHEN
• BREAKFAST ROOM
• EN SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM
OIEO £440,000
• 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• EXCELLENT LOCATION
• 140FT REAR GARDEN
• INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED
REF: Prestige_61512S



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Walderslade
• SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
• 3/4 DOUBLE BEDROOMS
• 1/2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• UPSTAIRS WET ROOM



• 75FT APPROX REAR GARDEN
• OUTSIDE W/C
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
• NO CHAIN

£164,995

REF: Walderslade_62284S



Kings Hill
• APARTMENT
• 2 BEDROOMS
• EN-SUITE TO MASTER
• OPEN PLAN LIVING



• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
• DOUBLE GLAZING
• NO CHAIN
• CANOPIED ALLOCATED PARKING

£199,995

REF: Walderslade_65867S



Chatham Guide Price £105,000 - £115,000
• 3 BEDROOM END OF TERRACE
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• INTEGRAL APPLIANCES
• NO FORWARD CHAIN

REF: Walderslade_62145S



Walderslade
• LINKED DETACHED
• 4 BEDROOMS
• CLOAKROOM
• KITCHEN/DINER



• ENSUITE
• GARAGE
• MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
• MUST BE SEEN

£239,995

REF: Walderslade_65712S



Strood
• 3 BEDROOM SEMI
• LOUNGE
• DETACHED GARAGE
• MODERN KITCHEN



• DINING AREA
• OVER SIZE GARAGE
• BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY
• GCH AND DOUBLE GLAZING

£225,000

REF: Walderslade_60106S



Chatham
• STARTER HOME
• 1 DOUBLE BEDROOM
• 1 RECEPTION ROOM
• DOUBLE GLAZING

£109,995

REF: Walderslade_59947S



Chatham
• 3 BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
• LOUNGE
• KITCHEN/DINER
• MODERN FITTED KITCHEN



• WELL PRESENTED GARDENS
• DOUBLE GLAZING
• GARAGE
• MUST BE SEEN

£159,995

REF: Walderslade_65837S



Chatham
• TERRACED HOUSE
• 2 BEDROOMS
• 1 RECEPTION ROOM
• ALLOCATED PARKING



• OPEN PLANNED
• 1ST FLOOR BATHROOM
• CLOSE TO AMENITIES
• IDEAL FIRST TIME BUYER

£139,995

REF: Walderslade_60121S



Chatham
• DETACHED BUNGALOW
• 1 BEDROOM
• LOUNGE
• CONSERVATORY

£149,995

REF: Walderslade_65380S



Rainham
• SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
• 2 DOUBLE BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• EXTENDED ACCOMMODATION



• GARAGE
• OFF ROAD PARKING
• DOUBLE GLAZING
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING

Guide Price £205,000 - £215,000

REF: Rainham_63625S



Parkwood
• 2 BEDROOM MID TERRACE
• LOUNGE
• DINING ROOM
• 14FT MASTER BEDROOM



• DOUBLE GLAZED
• GARAGE EN BLOC & DRIVE
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
• NO CHAIN

£131,995

REF: Rainham_61167S



Gillingham
• END OF TERRACE HOUSE
• 2 DOUBLE BEDROOMS
• CLOAKROOM
• LOUNGE DINER

OIEO £150,000

REF: Rainham_60839S



Rainham
• END OF TERRACE HOUSE
• 2/3 BEDROOMS
• LOUNGE
• DINING ROOM



• BEDROOM 3 / RECEPTION ROOM
• GARAGE
• DOUBLE GLAZED
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING

Guide Price £145,000 - £155,000

REF: Rainham_64677S



Gillingham
• SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
• 2/3 BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM



• SET BACK FROM ROAD
• GARDEN
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
• IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY

Guide Price £129,995 - £139,995

REF: Rainham_63292S



Rainham Guide Price £150,000 £160,000
• SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
• 3/4 BEDROOMS
• 1/2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• CONVERTED GARAGE

REF: Rainham_65313S



Gillingham
• FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
• 2 BEDROOMS
• LOUNGE
• REFITTED KITCHEN



• BATHROOM
• ALLOCATED PARKING SPACE
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
• VICTORIAN LISTED BUILDING

£124,995

REF: Rainham_64405S



Rainham
• 1 BEDROOM STARTER HOME
• MID TERRACE
• POPULAR TEN ACRE WAY DEVELOPMENT
• REFITTED KITCHEN



• REFITTED SHOWER ROOM
• CONSERVATORY
• 2 ALLOCATED SPACES
• REAR ACCESS

OIEO £129,995

REF: Rainham_64491S



Gillingham
• VICTORIAN HOUSE
• 3 SEPARATE BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• SET OVER THREE FLOORS

£154,995

REF: Rainham_61868S



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Walderslade
• 4 BEDROOM TERRACED PROPERTY
• SPACIOUS LOUNGE/DINER
• DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM
• UPSTAIRS MODERN BATHROOM



£199,995
• LOW MAINTENANCE REAR GARDEN
• INTEGRAL GARAGE AND OFF ROAD PARKING
• DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
• IDEAL FAMILY HOME
REF: Walderslade_62293S



Chatham
• 3 BEDROOM SEMI
• LOUNGE/DINER
• DOUBLE GLAZING
• CUL-DE-SAC POSITION



OIEO £150,000
• POPULAR LOCATION
• NO FORWARD CHAIN
• CLOSE TO M2 / M20
• INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED
REF: Walderslade_61006S



Newington Guide Price £115,000 - £125,000
• 2 BEDROOM GEORGIAN COTTAGE
• CELLAR
• PARKING BAY
• NO CHAIN
REF: Rainham_60003S



Chatham
• 1 BEDROOM SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT
• ENTRANCE HALL
• LOUNGE
• MODERN KITCHEN & BATHROOM



OIEO £85,000
• DOUBLE BEDROOM
• ALLOCATED PARKING
• NO FORWARD CHAIN
• CALL TO VIEW
REF: Walderslade_60533S



Walderslade
• 3 BEDROOM HOUSE
• LOUNGE
• KITCHEN/DINER
• CLOAKROOM



£134,000
• POPULAR LOCATION
• DOUBLE GLAZING
• NO FORWARD CHAIN
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
REF: Walderslade_61519S



Maidstone
• RETIREMENT FLAT
• 1 BEDROOM
• SECOND FLOOR
• WARDEN CONTROLLED
REF: Walderslade_60105S



Parkwood
• 3 BEDROOM HOUSE
• 2 RECEPTION AREAS
• CLOAKROOM/W.C
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING



£159,995
• DOUBLE GLAZING
• GOOD CONDITION
• LOW MAINTENANCE GARDEN
• GARAGE EN-BLOC
REF: Rainham_65059S



Parkwood
• END OF TERRACE
• 3 BEDROOMS
• LOUNGE DINER
• DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM



Guide Price £175,000 - £185,000
• CONSERVATORY
• ENCLOSED GARDEN
• GARAGE
• NO CHAIN
REF: Rainham_60135S



Chatham
• FLAT
• 1 BEDROOM
• WALKING DISTANCE OF TRAIN STATION
• SUITABLE FOR FIRST TIME BUYER / INVESTOR
REF: Walderslade_60189S



Rainham
• SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE
• 3 BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTION AREAS
• KITCHEN



Guide Price £180,000- £200,000
• SHOWER ROOM
• GARAGE
• BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY
• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
REF: Rainham_60687S



Rainham
• SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
• 3/4 BEDROOMS
• EXTENDED
• DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM



Guide Price £200,000 - £220,000
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• 16FT KITCHEN
• GARAGE & DRIVE
• POPULAR LOCATION
REF: Rainham_65027S



Chatham Guide Price £140,000- £149,995
• 2 BEDROOM TERRACED HOUSE
• EXTENDED
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• MODERN FITTED KITCHEN/BATHROOM
REF: Walderslade_64299S



Rainham
• 4 BEDROOM EXTENDED END TERRACE
• LOUNGE
• FURTHER RECEPTION ROOM
• KITCHEN DINER



OIEO £210,000
• FAMILY BATHROOM
• EN SUITE
• WALKING DISTANCE TO STATION
• GARAGE
REF: Rainham_60293S



Gillingham
• SEMI DETACHED CHALET BUNGALOW
• LOUNGE/DINER
• KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
• THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS



Guide Price £220,000 £240,000
• ENSUITE & DRESSING AREA
• WELL ESTABLISHED GARDEN
• CLOSE TO M2 / M20 MOTORWAY LINKS
• INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED
REF: Rainham_60151S



Chatham Prices starting from £115,000
• NEW STUDIO/1/2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS
• FANTASTIC LOCATION & VIEWS
• HI SPEC FITTED KITCHENS
• VILLEROY & BOCH SANITARY WARE
REF: Walderslade_66197S



Rainham
• SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
• 4 BEDROOMS
• 19FT REFITTED KITCHEN
• CONSERVATORY



Guide Price £250,000 £275,000
• 2/3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• EN SUITE
• GOOD SIZE GARDEN
• GARAGE AND DRIVE
REF: Rainham_60354S



Wigmore
• CHALET BUNGALOW
• 4 BEDROOMS
• 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• CONSERVATORY



Guide Price 325,000 - £335,000
• UPSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
• DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
• CORNER POSITION
• GARAGE AND DRIVEWAY TO REAR
REF: Rainham_60153S



Chatham
• 1 BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
• LOUNGE/ KITCHEN / DINER
• ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
• NO FORWARD CHAIN
REF: Walderslade_65392S

WILBEE & SON

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WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £89,500
First Floor purpose built self-contained flat, 99 lease with 81 years remaining, located over commercial premises on the west side of town, on 'bus route.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £269,995
Nicely presented 2 bedroom with study /3rd bedroom detached bungalow located in a popular residential area on the east of town.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £239,995
This three bedroom code 3 sustainable home comes with the benefit of a condensing boiler and solar panel.



UPSTREET, CANTERBURY £169,950
Vacant semi-detached cottage style home located in a semi-rural area with extensive country views from the rear and the First floor to front.



HERNE BAY £325,000
4 bedroom detached family house located in a pleasant cul-de-sac on a popular housing estate close to 'bus route.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £119,500
Recently converted self-contained ground floor 1 bedroom flat located on the east side of town, 'bus stop at hand to town, local shops nearby.



RECVLVER, HERNE BAY £75,000
Luxury 2 bedroom static home set in a quiet location on a site which allows occupancy for 11 months



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £180,000
Victorian terrace house located in a central position on the edge of the main High Street and very close to the sea front. Offering 3 bedrooms,



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £185,000
2 bedroom modern semi-detached bungalow located in a popular cul-de-sac on the east side of town close to the village of Beltinge.



BELTINGE, HERNE BAY £299,000
4 bedroom detached house in quiet location on the east side of town close to the Village of Beltinge. Close to local shops and 'bus route to town centre and Canterbury.



STUDD HILL, HERNE BAY £154,950
Vacant detached light construction 2 bedroom bungalow on the Cliff top on a private estate, extensive sea views. Features double glazing.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £269,995
Detached chalet style family residence, located on the west side of town convenient for railway station, easy access to sea front and other amenities.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £425,000
Detached 8/9 bedroom house, east side of town, lots of potential former nursing home. Gas central heating. Lift to First Floor. Off road parking and garage space.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £195,000
Spacious 3/4 bedroom Victorian terrace house, offered with no forward chain, centrally located, ideal for young family with schools opposite.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £275,000
Nicely appointed 3 bedroom detached bungalow located in a popular residential area on the east of town close to the Village of Beltinge.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £330,000
This well presented three bedroom bungalow is situated in the sought after village of Herne. Within 1/2 a mile of Herne Primary School and the village centre.



WEST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £229,950
Detached Edwardian style property, popular location on the west side of town close to the sea and 'bus route.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £399,995
Interesting Period property, central location, arranged in flats with the basement at present not occupied.



HERNE BAY £285,000
Rarely available, detached 3/4 bedroom bungalow standing on a wide plot located on the west side of town.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £235,000
Vacant 2/3 bedroom detached bungalow, located in a popular residential area on the east side of the town, good size garden.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £159,950
Vacant semi-detached cottage style property located on the outskirts of town on the border of the Village of Herne.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £235,000
Vacant 2 bedroom detached bungalow on wide corner plot located in an east central position within walking distance of local shops and 'bus route to town.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £124,995
Modern end of terrace 1 bedroom house located on the outskirts of Herne Bay, within walking distance of Herne Village. Offered with no forward chain.



STUDD HILL, HERNE BAY £265,000
Spacious 3 bedroom detached bungalow located on the west side of town and on a private estate within walking distance of local shop and 'bus route.



SOUTH, HERNE BAY £225,000
Situated in a cul-de-sac this two bedroom bungalow is light and airy. The rear garden is of manageable size, the drive to the detached garage offers ample off road parking.

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- Off road parking & gardens

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Sittingbourne

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- Garage & off road parking
- Popular Senora Fields development

Asking Price £87,000

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Topaz Drive

- Modern coach house style apartment
- Garage, off road parking & garden
- Good access to M20 and the M25

£87,000

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Queenborough

- Three bedroom house
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen
- Conservatory & bathroom

OIEO £120,000

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Sheerness

- Four bedroom terraced house
- Two reception rooms
- D/glazing & c/heating

OIEO £120,000

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Iwade

- Two bedroom luxury apartment
- Village of Iwade, no chain involved
- Stylish first home

£124,995

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Queenborough

- Three bedroom terrace house
- Well presented
- Arranged over four levels

OIEO £130,000

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Sheerness

- Three bedroom semi detached house
- Double glazing
- Central heating, garden

OIEO £135,000

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Bapchild

- 1800's Period cottage
- Kitchen/diner garden
- Immense charm and character

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Milton Regis

- Four bedroom detached family home
- Lounge, dining room and kitchen
- C/heating & d/glazing, parking & garage

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Sittingbourne

- Three bedroom detached family home.
- Kitchen, cloakroom
- Lounge & dining area, bathroom

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Countrywide

Sittingbourne



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Sittingbourne



£99,995

First floor apartment. Open-plan lounge/kitchen & bathroom suite. D/glazing and c/heating & an allocated parking space.

Murston



£114,995

Two bed end of terrace house. Lounge, dining room. C/heating, garden & allocated parking.

Milton Regis



£120,000

Three bedroom terraced house. Lounge/dining room, kitchen & bathroom. Garden.

Sittingbourne



£160,000

Three bedroom 1930's style property, subject to the relevant planning permissions being sought & granted.

Sittingbourne



£179,995

Stamp duty paid by vendor if asking price met. Three bedrooms, garden to rear & driveway.

Sittingbourne



£180,000

Four bedroom town house. En suite shower, cloakroom, lounge & dining room. Garage & garden.

Iwade



Offers in excess of £190,000

Detached bungalow, Iwade village, conservatory, two bedrooms & parking.

Sittingbourne



Offers in excess of £220,000

Detached house with, two receptions, cloakroom, three bedrooms & bathroom. C/heating, kitchen & d/glazing. Garage.

Sittingbourne



£86,50

Split level apartment. Two bedrooms, shower room, open plan lounge & kitchen area, d/glazing, c/heating.

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Day Two - The Hilton Brighton Metropole - Thursday, 10th June - 11am.

Day Three - The Ramada Hotel & Resort, Maidstone - Friday, 11th June - 11am.



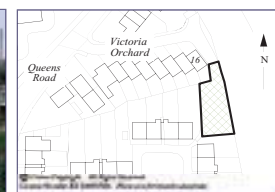
BARMING
Water Tower Conversion for Completion
Guide: £360-370,000



GOUDHURST
Period Village Semi for Restoration
Guide: £190-195,000



CRAYFORD
Timber Frame Bungalow for Redevelopment
Guide: £130-135,000



MAIDSTONE
Development Land for Four Flats
Guide: £115-120,000



RAINHAM
Two Semis - One Vacant, One Let
Guide: £125-130,000 & £135-140,000



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Guide: £40-45,000



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16 Acres of Grazing Lane
Guide: £160-165,000



ROCHESTER
Shop Plus Basement for Conversion
Guide: £60-65,000



STROOD
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Guide: £140-150,000



GRAVESEND
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Guide: £55-60,000



GOUDHURST
Church with Planning for Four Bed House
Guide: £180-200,000



GRAVESEND
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Three Flats for Refurbishment
Guide: £90-100,000



BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA
Vacant Paddock & Barn
Guide: £20-30,000



CHARING
Three Bedroom Semi for Refurb.
Guide: £180-190,000



HERNE BAY
Bungalow for Improvement
Guide: £70-80,000



DOVER
Four Storey House with Potential for Sub-division
Guide: £100-110,000



STURRY
Bungalow for Improvement
Guide: £180-200,000



WESTBROOK
House Arranged as Three Flats
Guide: £240-250,000



HERNE BAY
Shop with Planning for Two Units
Guide: £120-130,000



BARNEHURST
Two Bed Garden Flat for Refurb.
Guide: £95,000 Plus



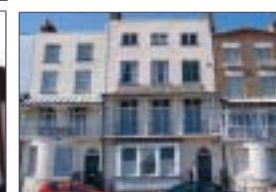
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Semi for Improvement
Guide: £140-145,000



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The Westlands School

Welfare Assistant
33.75 hours per week 38 weeks per year (8.15am – 12.30pm and 1.00pm – 3.30pm)
Salary in the range £16,793 - £18,471 pro rata (Equivalent to £12,758 - £14,032)
Required for September 2010

The Westlands School is seeking to appoint a school welfare assistant with basic first aid training. The key responsibilities will be to assist students with health/medical concerns and to be in charge of the day to day running of the welfare room.

You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired. Recruitment packs are available from the school or online.
Closing date, Friday, 21 May 2010

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF
www.westlands.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 47946
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA

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Teacher of Psychology
Part-time (approximately 25%). To teach Year 12 and Year 13 courses. Experience of IB an advantage but not essential.

All posts are for September 2010. Cobham Hall is an independent girls' boarding and day school and is set in 145 acres of stunning parkland in North West Kent. It is conveniently located near the A2 and M25. Please visit our website or contact the Headmaster's PA, Mrs C Blackwell, for further details of the posts and an application form. Closing date for applications is 13th May 2010, with interviews the following week.

The school is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful applicants are subject to a CRB check.

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Sheelagh Sanford 01304 813333



MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint
outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

Lecturer in Travel and Tourism Ref: P0154

Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 pro rata (dependant on qualifications and experience)
22.2 hours per week Medway

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to deliver and participate in the development of the Travel and Tourism programmes. Responsibilities will include establishing and developing travel and tourism industry contacts to enhance the students learning experience. A recognised Travel and Tourism qualification is essential. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Functional Skills Ref: P0468

Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

The College is seeking an exceptional candidate to participate in the delivery of Skills for Life qualifications across all the College Faculties. The successful candidate will be willing to organise and lead extracurricular and enrichment activities and contribute to the development of Functional Skills across the College. The ideal candidate will have experience of teaching Basic and Skills and Functional Skills and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Market Research Officer Ref: P0464

Salary: £18,709 - £20,674 pro rata
18.5 hours per week (The College operates a flexible working policy)
Medway

We are looking for a creative and enthusiastic individual to assist the Marketing Team in devising and implementing effective internal and external market research. Excellent IT skills are essential as the role will also include keeping the College website up to date. The ideal candidate will have experience of carrying out market research activities and a good working knowledge of market research related software such as SNAP or Active.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in IT Ref: SE006

Hourly rate: £22.64 - £27.46 (dependant on qualifications and experience)

The College is looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach BTEC National and First Diploma IT programmes. Experience and knowledge of BTEC is desirable and ability to teach Functional Skills to level 2 would be welcome. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised Teaching Qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 19 May 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



THAMESVIEW SCHOOL with
Business & Enterprise Status

Thong Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4LF

Headteacher: **Miss R. Hughes** B.Ed Hons

Tel: 01474 566552 Fax: 01474 537405

email: school@thamesview.kent.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk>

ICT Technician

37 hours per week

40 weeks per year

KCC Salary Scheme 3 (points 7 - 11) £14,099 to £15,984 pa

Pro rata to £12,167.44 to £13,794.19 pa

We wish to appoint an ICT Technician for an immediate start to provide ICT support to the school and to ensure the effective and efficient provision of ICT equipment, services and advice. You will be a point of contact for members of staff who require basic ICT assistance, and to troubleshoot minor problems.

The successful applicant must:

- Have good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Be able to work as a flexible member of a team.
- Possess current working knowledge of major applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, and databases.
- Be able to demonstrate a passion for and hands on approach to ICT.
- Work with diligence and accuracy.
- Be confident to work independently and multi-task

We are in the current wave of Building Schools for the Future (BSF), so have a brand new school due to open in July 2010 with incredible facilities for indoor and outdoor learning. We will also have over £1m spent on future technology and ICT throughout.

If you have the qualities required, you may obtain further details and an application form by telephoning the school 01474 566552 ext. 208 or email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk. Details of this vacancy are also available on our website at www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Closing date: 17th May 2010
Interview date: 21st May 2010

*We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students.
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For further information please contact Mrs Julie Wilson, Headteacher, Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ

Tel: 0844 477 2525.

Email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010.
Interviews to be held: 24-27 May 2010.

www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk



**Northfleet
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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Lecturer in Civil Engineering Ref: P0333

Salary: £26,283 - £28,463 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

Medway

We are looking for an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of Civil Engineering programmes across the Faculty of Advanced Construction and Engineering. The successful candidate will possess qualities of reliability, have good communication skills and hold an HNC/HND/Foundation degree or higher in the above Engineering specialism. Previous industry experience is essential. The ideal candidates will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 26 May 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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CRICKET

BY STEVE TERVET

Kent League Premier Division

Tunbridge Wells 1st XI v Gore Court 1st XI

GORE Court bowled only four balls on Saturday as their Premier Division game against Tunbridge Wells at the Nevill fell foul of the rain which frustrated much of the county.

The visitors had earlier posted 182 from their 52 overs, their fortunes polarised between the superb form of captain Karl Pearson and Rob Slater and a pitiful effort by their team-mates.

Pearson, opening the innings, measured big-hitting with patient defence as he saw five batsmen depart for a combined 12 runs, three of them registering no score at all.

Only when Pearson was joined by Slater did the scoring accelerate as the pair lifted Court out of the mire at 42 for 5, adding 140 runs. Pearson's century contained 17 fours and a six, with Slater taking 107 balls to reach his 58.

Chris Lawrence finished with a five-wicket haul for the Wells after skittling out Hal Pearson, Paul Muchall, Philip Edwards, Paul Geary and Sahibzada Afridi, who all left Karl Pearson stranded until Slater's arrival.

Even their combined efforts did not look to have given Court a defendable total, though, and Edwards took the new ball with the Wells requiring 3.45 runs per over for the win.

However, the rain fell to cut the game short and both sides picked up eight points for the abandoned game, as did every other club in the Premier Division.

Pearson's side take on The Mote this Saturday, with the visitors taking their first steps after promotion from Division One last season.

Rain ruins Court's day just as the action gets started



FRUSTRATION: Gore Court (pictured batting last season) had barely bowled an over in anger before the heavens opened

SCOREBOARD

Gore Court 1st XI

	Runs
Karl Pearson not out	107
Hal Pearson b Lawrence	0
Paul Muchall b Lawrence	3
Philip Edwards b Lawrence	0
Paul Geary b Lawrence	0
Sahibzada Afridi ct Burley b Lawrence	9
Rob Slater not out	58
Henry Adie did not bat	
Adam Collins did not bat	
Alex Edwards did not bat	
Jamie Lavers did not bat	
Extras (3lb 2w)	5
Total (5 wickets, 53 overs)	182

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Chris Lawrence	13	5	33	5
Christopher Rainger	9	4	20	0
Fred Florry	11	1	36	0
Oliver Priestman	14	2	48	0
Evert Belcker	6	0	42	0

Tunbridge Wells 1st XI

	Runs
Evert Belcker not out	0
Alexander Williams not out	0
Sam Stickler did not bat	
Oliver Priestman did not bat	
Mark Alexander did not bat	
Richard Cutts did not bat	
Simon Routh did not bat	
Theo Burley did not bat	
Chris Lawrence did not bat	
Fred Florry did not bat	
Christopher Rainger did not bat	
Extras	0
Total (0 wickets, 0.4 overs)	0

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Philip Edwards	0.4	1	0	0

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

Rodmersham 1st XI v Gravesend RF 1st XI

THE rain brought a premature end to an intriguing game at Bottles Lane, with Rodmersham floundering in their reply to Gravesend's modest total.

Only Sukhpal Singh Rana's century gave Gravesend any hope after their top-order collapsed and Rodmersham's Sandeep Rodrigo picked up 4 for 36.

Needing 168 for victory, Rodmersham were put to the sword by Rajanathan Rajathurai, who collected 3 for 12 from his six overs before the action was halted, with Rodmersham picking up eight points for their efforts.

Gravesend RF 1st XI

	Runs
Richard Ashley	run out 4
John Smith	run out 0
David Kelly	ct Beacon b Rodrigo 1
Richard Skye	b Nokes 3
Nigel Dee	lbw b Rodrigo 8
Sukhpal Singh Rana	not out 100
Min Mann	ct Nokes b Rodrigo 34
Jeff Allen	ct Beacon b Rodrigo 1
Rajanathan Rajathurai	not out 1
Steve Waghorn	did not bat
George Ashley	did not bat
Extras	(7b 4lb 4w) 15
Total	(7 wickets, 47 overs) 167

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Sandeep Rodrigo	11	0	36	4
Darren Nokes	13	4	37	1
Dylan Emmett	7	1	26	0
Naj Hashimi	3	1	9	0
Nazoomi Azhar	10	2	32	0
Matthew Godden	3	0	16	0

Rodmersham 1st XI

		Runs
Nick Denly	.not out.	18
Michael Jones	.b Rajathurai.	0
Sandeep Rodrigo	.b Rajathurai.	1
Nazoomi Azhar	.ct Unsure b Rajathurai.	2
Dave Cogger	.not out.	1
Matthew Godden	.did not bat.	
James Beech	.did not bat.	
Darren Nokes	.did not bat.	
Naj Hashimi	.did not bat.	
Dylan Emmett	.did not bat.	
Kevin Beacon	.did not bat.	
Extras	(2b 5lb 6w)	13
Total	(3 wickets, 15 overs)	35

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Rajanathan Rajathurai	6	1	12	3
Jeff Allen	4	2	8	0
Sukhpal Singh Rana	2	1	5	0
Name uncertain	2	1	1	0
Richard Ashley	1	0	2	0

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FIVE

Offham 1st XI v Macknade 1st XI

MACKNADE cruised to a five-wicket win on the opening day of the season as a fine batting effort easily overhauled Offham's total of 220.

Lawrence Bell scored 54 for Offham before being bowled by Chris Jay, but Kaylem Short and Phil Rowcroft took six wickets between them to contain the hosts.

Short (25) and Rowcroft (32) then led the reply, with Jay and Lee Rigden adding the bulk of the runs as Macknade strolled home inside 36 overs.

Offham 1st XI

	Runs
Tom Gittings	b Short 7
Kraig Corke	b Short 31
Ben Gittings	run out 32
Graham Razez	b Short 7
Leonard Watt	ct Taylor b Ridden 14
Lawrence Bell	b Jay 54
Adam Kent	ct Holmans b Rowcroft 13
Tom Boucher	b Jay 23
Ben Regan	b Rowcroft 11
Andy Cox	not out 8
Andrew Stuart	lbw b Rowcroft 0

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Kaylem Short	15	1	58	3
James Jarrett	4	0	23	0
Jamie Rigden	12	4	42	1
Chris Jay	9	0	40	2

Macknade 1st XI

		Runs
Phil Rowcroft	ct Regan b Watt	32
Kaylem Short	lbw b Razez	25
Lee Rigden	lbw b Regan	46
Chris Jay	ct Regan b Watt	53
Andrew Machin	ct Gittings b Razez	6
Scott Davenport	not out	39
Steve Taylor	not out	8
Jonathan Holmans	did not bat	
Jamie Rigden	did not bat	
Darryl Cook	did not bat	
James Jarrett	did not bat	

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Leonard Watt	11	2	67	2
Andy Cox	75	0	54	0
Graham Razez	11	0	60	2
Andrew Stuart	2	0	18	0
Ben Regan	6	2	17	1

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE 1B CENTRAL

High Halstow 3rd XI v Gore Court 3rd XI

GORE Court 3rds were given a harsh lesson by their High Halstow counterparts on Saturday as they crashed to a 264-run defeat at the Hundred of Hoo School.

Elliott Johnson clubbed 19 boundaries on his way to 103 not out and James Rutherford hit 60, but the home side were gifted 57 wides on their way to 299 for 6.

Jim Quirke took 5 for 12 as Halstow cleaned up inside 11 overs with only two Court batsman troubling the scorers.

High Halstow 3rd XI

		Runs
Andy Simpson	ct Passey b Glazier	2
Jim Quirke	b Neame	1
Rob Osborne	b Passey	19
David Jones	ct Newell b Neame	17
Jamie Kingbrooks	lbw b Neame	9
Elliott Johnson	not out	103
Ben Smalley	ct Hayes b Passey	3
James Rutherford	not out	60
Ryan Stickings	did not bat	
Peter Tugate	did not bat	
Anthony Cherry	did not bat	

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Michael Neame	12	0	65	3
Daniel Glazier	6	0	70	1
Tom Passey	9.1	0	54	2
Josh Hayes	4	0	48	0
Ewan Rushworth	4	0	37	0

Gore Court 3rd XI

	Runs	
Louis Newell	ct Jones b Kingbrooks	0
Daniel Glazier	b Quirke	26
James Lowery	ct Osborne b Quirke	0
Michael Gozo	ct Cherry b Quirke	4
Sam Miller	ct Quirke b Kingbrooks	0
Richard Penny	b Kingbrooks	0
Michael Neame	ct Osborne b Quirke	0
Josh Hayes	ct Tugate b Quirke	0
Ewan Rushworth	b Kingbrooks	0
Tom Passey	not out	0

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Jim Quirke	6	2	12	5
Jamie Kingbrooks	5	1	23	4

FRIENDLY

Upchurch 2nd XI v Gills Travel

WITH all their Saturday fixtures washed out, Upchurch took the opportunity to keep their eye in with a crushing friendly win over Gills Travel on Sunday.

Adam Hodder and Theo Barnett both reached 50 before retiring and there were flourishes down the order from Daniel Parker (41) and Lee Stepney (43 not out).

Chasing 310 to win, Gills crumbled to 73 all out with six different Upchurch bowlers getting in on the wicket haul and only two batsmen reaching double figures.

Upchurch 2nd XI

	Runs
Andrew Shirley	ct Wells b Vesey 36
Adam Hodder	retired not out 50
Theo Barnett	retired not out 53
Joseph Prince	b Stearn 0
Beau Taylor	b Smith 5
Michael Hales jnr	ct Vesey b M Taylor 37
Kevin Cunningham	ct Rodwell b Smith 15
Daniel Parker	ct Webb b Stearn 41
Lee Stepney	not out 43
Michael Hales	not out 21
Tony Bond	did not bat

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Roy Vesey	8	1	62	1
S Rodwell	6	0	67	0
Derek Stearn	7	2	41	2
John Smith	7	0	45	2
Warren Taylor	6	0	48	0
Matthew Taylor	6	0	42	1

Gills Travel

		Runs
David Wells	.ct Hales jnr b Taylor	26
Warren Taylor	.b Cunningham	2
Roy Vesey	.ct Taylor b Bond	7
Karl May	.b Taylor	8
Andrew White	.ct Hales b Prince	2
Robert Webb	.ct Barnett b Cunningham	10
Derek Stearn	.b Hales Jnr.	0
Gary Sutton	.b Barnett	0
John Smith	.b Barnett	2
S Rodwell	.lbw b Hales jnr	0
Matthew Taylor	.not out	1

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Tony Bond	8	3	13	1
Kevin Cunningham	8	3	8	2
Joseph Prince	6	1	29	1
Beau Taylor	5	2	8	2
Theo Barnett	5	2	10	2
Michael Hales Jnr	1.3	0	1	2
Adam Hodder	1	0	1	0

Abbott delight as Bourne close out season with cup

FOOTBALL

BY STEVE Tervet

SITTINGBOURNE manager Gary Abbott hopes to keep the majority of his squad for next season in order to mount another challenge for the Ryman South play-offs.

The Brickies fell well short in the league last term but rounded off their campaign with a 3-1 victory over Folkestone Invicta to lift the Kent Senior Cup at Cheriton Road.

Abbott admitted he would have been "gutted" to finish an epic season empty-handed and his relief was evident in the post-match celebrations.

"Everyone in the changing room I want to keep," he said. "I've told them I want them to stay here. It's not about money at all here and that's obviously me included as well. We've got a good bunch of lads who want to work hard and the whole squad's been brilliant."

"We deserved that win and if we'd lost, I'd have been absolutely gutted to have come away from this season with nothing."

"The fixture pile-up let us down but we let ourselves down – if you don't beat the bottom five, you don't deserve to get in the play-offs but we've made up for it now."

Sittingbourne's noisy band of supporters swelled the cup final crowd to 618, but they saw their side go behind in first-half stop-



CELEBRATIONS: Gary Abbott holding Kent Senior Trophy (chairman Andy Spice to his left) and Joe Horlock and Hicham Akhazzan with the trophy

page-time when Jimmy Jackson finished smartly from 12 yards.

Whatever Abbott said at half-time, it certainly energised his side as they flew out of the traps and equalised when Colin Richmond headed home Tom Bradbrook's cross. Hicham Akhazzan then put the Brickies ahead and Bradbrook finished off a late counter-attack to net Sittingbourne's third.

Invicta, who will play in the Ryman Premier Division next season, have proved a tough nut for most opponents to crack, but this was Sittingbourne's third victory against their Kent rivals in four attempts.

Abbott said: "I've always said it's the way you play against them – I've seen them play against other teams who don't do anything to stop Jimmy Jackson playing. I watched them against Godalming [in the play-off final] last Saturday and I was confident of beating them, as long as the boys did what we told them to do."

The Brickies' penchant for playing the under-dog role saw them win at Bromley, Tonbridge Angels and Cray Wanderers en route to the final, but they must improve dramatically in games against more humble opposition if they are to have realistic hopes of promotion next season.

CRICKET



THREADBARE: Gore Court have lost players

Why staying up could cost Court in the long run

ANOTHER long season lies in wait for Gore Court Cricket Club as they attempt to keep afloat in an increasingly competitive and ruthless Kent League Premier Division.

Court stayed up by just two points last season but secretary John Jessiman admits survival may end up hurting the club more in the long-run.

Having operated with a threadbare squad in 2009, 1st XI captain Karl Pearson has even less to work with this summer following the departures of Chris, Richard and Shaun Piesley to Premier Division newcomers Lordswood.

Jessiman said: "I think it will be a struggle again – this is a year of consolidation and if we stay up, great, but if we go down, we go down. I think we would have been better off going down last year because you need time to get youngsters through and we'd have had more of a chance to do that in Division One."

"You can't say what other clubs are doing because it's such a competitive league and other teams may have lost players too. It will come down to a couple of teams who can win it and the others competing to stay up. It's like the Premier League in football, except we have the big two rather than the big four."

With several players still involved at the tail-end of the football season, Court were unable to play their scheduled friendlies against Staplehurst and Bickley Park ahead of Saturday's scheduled first league game of the season at Tunbridge Wells, but Jessiman insisted there would be no problem fielding a team for any league game.

"The players will just go out and do their best and we want the second XI to consolidate too," he said. "We won't have an overseas player because it's almost impossible with the new immigration laws, unless someone is already coming over."

Court play their first home game of the season on Saturday against The Mote.



CEREMONY: Mark Rogers will pick up league's award

Fair play rewarded

FOOTBALL

SHEPPEY Sunday League bosses are celebrating after being awarded a Football Association Respect Award in the adult grassroots league category.

League secretary Mark Rogers will collect the award at Wembley on Saturday, prior to the FA Cup final, and he praised players and supporters for their roles in landing the prize.

Having persuaded Swale Borough Council and private pitch holders to mark out 'spectator lines', the league was nominated for the way it had embraced the Respect campaign.

Rogers said: "I want to thank everyone involved with the Sheppey Sunday League for their help and support in achieving this great accolade. It shows we are being recognised as an outstanding league and one we should all be proud of."

"It's amazing to watch spectators behind the line. It does seem as though there is an invisible wall there and we can certainly say it works. We are a very hard-working league and we work closely with our clubs."



STRUGGLE: Shane Byrne found it difficult at Monza at the weekend but says the Althea team's hard work will pay off

Shakey sorry for failing to go faster on team's home circuit

SUPERBIKES

SHANE Byrne heads to South Africa for round six of the World Superbike Championship sitting in 12th place after mixed results at Monza last weekend.

The Sheppey rider finished 13th in race one, just in front of Althea Racing team-mate Carlos Checa, as the team struggled to compete in front of their home crowd.

Despite starting 15th on the grid for race two, Byrne picked his way through the field to sneak into the top ten, claiming ninth spot with Checa this time two places back.

Both races were won by Max Biaggi but Byrne

took the positives from what had always promised to be a difficult round for Althea.

He said: "We knew it would be difficult but thanks to my team's hard work in the garage, we got a good result and I had fun, especially in race two. On Friday we were a long way off but on Sunday we were not so far behind."

"I'm sorry for [general manager] Genesio [Bevilacqua] and for the team because I know they would have liked to do better at their home track, but I did my best."

Byrne and Checa will hope for an improved showing at the Kyalami circuit this weekend, while Leon Haslam leads the championship and Byrne's close friend Leon Camier has climbed to eighth.

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Mark Stimson speaks to the press for the last time as Gillingham manager

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